AL FAJR

IS40
16 PAGES

# JERUSALEM

PALESTINIAN WEEKLY

POSTMASTER
Send address changes to
Al-Fajr
2025 I Street N.W.
Washington, D.C.
20006

(USPS 686-630

VOL. IV NO. 185

8. 1983

Serial Records Division
Harvard College Library
Cambridge, Ma. 02138

**TO OUR READERS:**

**In compliance with the Israeli military authorities, and under the guise of the Al-Fajr is required to submit all material prepared for publication in this weekly, and also in the Arabic Daily, Edition, to the Israeli censorship authorities, who use this blanket authority excessively. The material appearing on pages labeled with letters has all been censored and expunged by the Israeli authorities. We found it necessary and relevant to publish it on these pages in the foreign edition.**

# Freeze on Dheisheh Destruction

High Court Judge Menachem Elon issued an interim order (November 15) instructing the defence ministry and the Israeli Army not to evacuate inhabitants in the refugee camp (Dheisheh) from their homes or close their businesses in the camp or on the main Bethlehem-Hebron road.

Camp-inhabitants, whose case wss submitted to the High Court of Justice by Amnon Zikhrony, wrote *inter alia* that recently security men sealed off entrances to the camp and surveyors measured houses and businesses near the main road. The inhabitants fear, they wrote, following reports in the Israeli media, that the authorities intend to demolish houses and to evacuate businesses near the main road in the camp, in order to stop the throwing of stones at Israeli vehicles on the main road.

The interim order will be valid until a request for an order *nisi* can be discussed by a three judge court. (Translation: HaAretz, November 16, 1983).

. . . . . .

Over the past week there has been increased Israeli media speculation that the authorities plan to move on the camps soon. *HaAretz* quoted the Israeli coordinator of military activities for the occupied territories, General Binyamin Ben Eliezer, as saying that the present wave of protest "compels them to make the issue of rehabilitation of refugees top priority."

*continued on page 13*

# Army kills Two in Tulkarm

Two young Palestinians were shot dead and at least one more was seriously injured when Israeli soldiers opened fire on demonstrators in Tulkarm, north of the West Bank, November 12. Three youths were arrested.

Ibrahim Abdo Bishara, 22, and Amer Mohammed Salameh, 20, died when Israeli border guards opened fire on a group of five demonstrators who they were chasing, the Israeli military and media reported.

Reports said the five "did not obey the orders to stop running" and did not respond to warning shots. The army said the soldiers wanted to arrest the youths for participating in the demonstration. The military spokesman said border guards followed standing orders when they killed the youths. Israelis say the five youths were "inciting others to demonstrate."

According to initial reports, only one of the other three youths was wounded but there were other reports later that said all three were hit. The three youths are in custody.

Initial local reports from Tulkarm, known as the calmest town in the West Bank, refute the Israeli claim. Reliable local sources report the two Palestinians were "killed in cold blood" in the playground of the local vocational school at 9:15 am.

The Israeli authorities immediately placed the Tulkarm refugee camp and the centre of town under curfew.

Relatives of the two martyrs' families accuse the Israelis of killing the pair deliberately and that there were no demonstrations in the town before they died.

Hosni Bishara, 22, Ibrahim's cousin, told *Al Fajr* that the only eyewitnesses of the incident are the three who were arrested.

He said, "Around 9:30 am, a group of young men was standing near the vocational school in Tulkarm. There was no demonstration, but the atmosphere in the town was tense in reaction to events in Tripoli. There was a large number of Israeli soldiers in town. There were many military vehicles roaming around," Hosni said.

Hosni, who speaks Hebrew fluently, told mourners and Palestinian and Israeli journalists who came to his house in the eastern quarter of the city, November 14: "The youngsters put *kafiyyas* around their necks. When Ibrahim and Amer were killed, a curfew was declared in Tulkarm and the refugee camp. The two bodies were left on the ground for more than half an hour. Later they were transferred to Abu Kbir autopsy hospital in Tel Aviv."

Ibrahim Bishara's relatives said the Tulkarm Hospital director told them that Ibrahim was shot in the chest.

The same day at around 10:00 am, police summoned Abed Bishara, 55, Ibrahim's father, to the police headquarters and detained him until 1:30 pm. He told *Al Fajr* that *mukhabarat* (security services) men told him to leave without talking about the killing.

## Martyrs Funeral

The Israeli authorities handed over Ibrahim Bishara's body at 1:30 am, November 13, and he was buried near his home immediately. The authorities limited the number of those who participated in the funeral to close family and forced the procession to follow side roads. Ten military vehicles accompanied the procession and the participants were prevented from repeating the usual blessing: *Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar* (there is no God but the one God).

The body of Amer Salameh was given to his family at the Tulkarm refugee camp at midnight. Over 70 people, members of the family and neighbours, participated in his funeral. Large numbers of Israeli soldiers also accompanied the procession. Amer was buried in Thanabeh village, 800 metres from the camp.

Hussein Bishara, 60, who spent 10 years in Israeli jails, told *Al Fajr*: "We in the occupied territories have resisted the occupation for 16 years and have seen the Israeli authorities' day-to-day policy of oppression here."

Ibrahim Bishara was a construction worker in Tulkarm after he finished preparatory school. He had five brothers and five sisters, all of whom are students. Ibrahim and his father were the only bread-winners in the family.

Ibrahim was arrested in 1978 on charges of "inciting to demonstrate" and fined IL 50,000. On the day of his death, Ibrahim did not go to work at the school because there were not enough construction materials. He told his family that he wanted to go to town and he would come back soon.

*continued on page 13*

# 4000 Dunums Grabbed Near Nablus

Landowners from the village of Yamoun, southeast of Nablus, appealed, November 10, to the Military Objections Committee against a decision to grab an estimated 3000 dunums of land.

Earlier last month, landowners from the nearby village of Agraba appealed against an order to seize 1000 dunums of land.

In their appeal, Yamoun landowners, through their lawyer Jawad Boulos, stated that they have titles to the land. Earlier the lawyer asked for an extension of the period in which an official objection can be filed. During negotiations, the lawyer informed the Israeli officer that the authorities' decision to declare the land 'government property' was illegal, since the landowners possess official deeds to the land. Copies of the documents were attached to the objection.

The land in question is located on the western slopes of the Jordan Valley mountains. It is described by its owners as "very fertile." The plains, which contain wells for irrigation, are used to grow winter crops, as well as some summer vegetables.

In the other case, lawyers Jawad Boulos and Felicia Langer appealed, in mid-October, on behalf of 55 landowners from Agraba. The massive land grab was issued by the Israeli custodian of absentee property at the Nablus military governorate. The confiscation order, which was issued last May, stated that the land "was declared government property." The confiscation order did not include a map of the land under threat.

The appeal to the Military Objections Committee was initially rejected on the pretext that the appellants did not include maps of their land. The chairman of the committee, however, agreed to give the landowners 45 days to prepare them.

Jawad Boulos said that so far more than 20 landowners have prepared the maps and turned them over to the objections committee.

Owners complain that preparing maps is very costly and time consuming. Since most Agraba landowners do not have titles, they had to make surveys before the maps could be drawn. The cost per map was estimated at several hundred Jordanian dinars.

**IN THIS ISSUE**

Southern Lebanese resist. . . . . p.2
A week of action and reaction in West Bank . . . . . p.3
Israelis discuss new plan for refugee camps . . . . . p.4
North Lebanon and the Palestinians . . . . . p.5
Hyatt Regency Company breaks with US policy . . . . . p.7
Economic hardship in occupied territories . . . . . pp.8&9
The Committee to Protest Journalists . . . . . p.10
Palestinian singer in court . . . . . p.13
Washington gears for aggression . . . . . p.16

# SOUTH LEBANESE FIGHT ISRAELI MEASURES

by Livia Rokach

As Israeli and foreign journalists based in Israel were conducted to the Awali River last Tuesday, November 8, to flash photos of a few privileged Lebanese citizens permitted to cross the bridge and proceed towards Beirut, a few kilometres away, in the village of Sarafand, the home of the Saleh family was being dynamited by occupation forces.

The grandparents, parents, wife and children of Hussein Saleh, arrested a few days earlier on suspicion of participation in resistance actions against the occupation, were given a few seconds to leave their old home and watch its destruction.

The demolition was the second case of its kind in 48 hours — less than two days earlier the home of the Farhat family in the village of Anqun suffered the same fate after the arrest of a family member.

The explosions have further increased tensions in the area, where the population has already repeatedly expressed determination to achieve liberation by all possible means.

Echoes of this unanimity sounded high in a meeting at the military occupation headquarters in Sidon, in which the Israeli governor sought the collaboration of South Lebanese leaders and dignitaries, according to participants. The Israelis, reportedly adopting "conciliatory" tones, promised "Israel has no annexationist aims in South Lebanon," and that drastic measures taken, such as the closure of bridges, the expulsion of the Lebanese administration from its offices in the "Serail" building and the occupation of the *gendarmerie* barracks, were only "temporary."

The unanimous response of the local leadership was a rejection of the "unconvincing arguments" of the governor, and the counter-promise was that the measures taken will only make tension and violence stronger, reports said. "All Lebanese will resist until your final and complete withdrawal," one participant reportedly told the governor. The liberation of all prisoners held at Ansar detention camp and elsewhere was also demanded.

By unanimous judgement of all observers, the general strike carried out last Tuesday, November 8, was a "complete success" with even the smallest and most remote villages fully participating. Not a shop, kiosk, office or stand in the villages and towns opened, according to eyewitness reports from the south. Factories, ports and refineries were totally deserted, schools and all public administration posts closed, and large crowds attended anti-occupation meetings in the *Husseiniyas* (Shi'ite places of worship). Loud speakers relayed speeches and slogans to public squares and adjacent streets.

A solidarity strike was widely observed in West Beirut, where all organisations, associations and public bodies issued statements hailing the resistence in the south and in other parts of Lebanon.

Following what was described as "the farce of the Israeli press' appearance at the bridges," Beirut papers ironically commented that the move was intended to demonstrate the supposed "lenience" of the occupation authorities for "just the time needed to take photos."

Treatment of Lebanese wishing to travel north or south over the Awali River bridges is reported to have become particularly brutal. Families are made to walk for more than two kilometres with heavy suitcases in their hands and babies in their arms. Reports say that processing each person takes at least 30 minutes. A non-Israeli reporter on the Israeli tour said people on the bridge told him they had been waiting for several hours. He reported that only a few people, from the hundreds waiting, crossed during the time he was watching. Cigarette packets, pens and all other personal objects are subject to minute and nerve-wrecking searches, at the bridges. Forms listing addresses and names of relatives must also be filled out by each person crossing the Awali. Special permits from the occupation headquarters are needed to return northwards.

Massive occupation forces are being deployed throughout the south, recent visitors say. Bulldozers are moving earth at the mouth of the Awali, a terminal is being built where the Israelis will process passengers wishing to cross the river, trucks with vegetables and fruit are not allowed to cross and the population is thus deprived of fresh food.

The liason officer at the Sidon military headquarters told reporters that the new measures were instigated by the bombing of the Tyre military headquarters, November 4. The officer, known as Captain Albert, was quoted as saying that the booby-trapped car was prepared in the Beqa'a valley and passed into South Lebanon across the Awali bridges.

Nazih Bizri, the representative of the Sidon district in the Lebanese parliament, described the step as part of a plan to empty South Lebanon of its original inhabitants to facilitate the area's annexation to Israel.

A similar concern was expressed by Lebanese Foreign Minister Fuad Butrus. He has instructed Lebanon's representative at the United Nations to submit an official memorandum to the Security Council about the Israeli measure.

Despite all this, military resistance has continued unabated. Lebanese reports say an occupation patrol was decimated at 5:30 am, November 8, near Shabriha, at the northern entrance to Tyre. The next day a "National Guard" mercenary, from Harouf village, near Nabatiya, was shot dead. A booby-trapped car reportedly killed two men from the same militia in the village of Tibnin, November 13.

An Israeli patrol came under automatic gunfire from a speeding car as it moved north of the Zahrani River, November 13. There were no reports of casualties.

On Monday, November 14, at 9:30 am, an occupation patrol was blown up near Akabiya, 15 kilometres south of the Awali fortifications. According to *Agence France Presse*, an Israeli soldier was wounded, November 16, near Adloun, south of Tyre. Ten Lebanese civilians were rounded up after the attack, the report said. A day earlier eight residents of nearby Bourj al-Shemali refugee camp were reported held.

Two soldiers were wounded, November 14, after an explosive device went off at the side of a road they were patrolling near Tyre.

The Israeli military spokesman said one soldier was wounded when an anti-tank rocket hit a mobile patrol south of Tyre. Israeli troops sealed off the area.

# Palestinians Kidnapped on High Seas

Twenty-five Palestinians were taken off a boat travelling to Lebanon, late September, and are presently being held at an unknown location in Israel, according to a statement issued, October 21, by the Paris-based International Centre for Information on Palestinian and Lebanese Prisoners, Deportees and Missing Persons.

The Cyprus-registered 'Cortelia' was stopped 37 miles off the Lebanese coast, September 29, by an Israeli gunboat and forced to sail to Haifa, the ICIPLPDMP said. All passengers were interrogated and 25 Palestinians were detained. Their passports were given to the 'Cortelia's' captain. The statement said Geneva sources report some of the Palestinians were former residents of Berlin, leaving the city before being deported.

The PLO representative at the UN, Zuhdi Tarazi, protested to the president of the Security Council and Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar, October 5, demanding action to release the Palestinians.

The ICIPLPDMP said: "The capture, in open seas, of a commercial boat and therefore people amounts to grave violation of International Law and is comparable to an act of piracy."

They demanded the Cypriots take the case to the International Court of Justice in the Hague and called on all states to protest the Israelis' act and demand the release of the Palestinian civilians.

AFTER HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT

# Baddawi Falls

The Baddawi refugee camp, under siege for two weeks, fell to the anti-PLO Chairman Yasir Arafat forces, November 16, after more than 40 hours of fierce battles. Troops loyal to Arafat withdrew to Tripoli, where they have been building trenches in preparation for the next battle.

The fighting culuminated with brutal hand-to-hand clashes in which 62 people were killed and 136 wounded, according to Lebanese sources.

Children have not been spared by the fighting in north Lebanon.

The final assault on the Palestinian camp north of Tripoli started November 14. The Palestinian news agency, WAFA, reported that the three-pronged assault began after a Syrian decision to fight was taken.

Syrian and Libyan media reported that Syrian President Hafez al-Assad and Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi have announced they will not negotiate with Arafat until he leaves Tripoli.

The final assault on Baddawi was reported by Lebanon state radio to have been led by Ahmad Jibril, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestinian — General Command.

Chairman Arafat and his aides continued to call Syrian and Libyan parties to the conflict. Both countries and the Palestinian rebels have vehemently denied involvement.

The November 9 cease-fire agreement negotiated by representatives of the Arab Gulf states is said by local observers to have totally collapsed.

The latest attacks were condemned by the main PLO factions outside Fatah. A joint statement by the Popular and Democratic Fronts for the Liberation of Palestine, November 15, demanded an immediate stop to the attacks on Baddawi camp. The statement, issued in Damascus, called for a serious cease-fire attempt as a prelude to negotiations to settle the problems inside Fatah.

# Israel Hits Beqa'a, Beirut Cease-fire Dies

Israeli war planes bombed, November 16, bases of the Hussein Musawwi movement in Baalback, leaving scores dead and injured. The 25-minute air attack on the bases of the group that split from the Shi'ite Amal movement followed numerous Israeli and American statements of possible 'limited' retaliation to the bombings of the Marines headquarters in Beirut, last month, and the Israeli military headquarters in Tyre, earlier this month. Musawwi had lauded both attacks.

According to Israel Radio, the raid left 33 dead and 80 injured. Lebanese sources put the figure much higher. Israeli Chief of Staff Moshe Levy, when announcing the attack, vowed to "continue to seek out terrorists." Israeli officials stressed that Israeli planes were careful not to attack Syrian targets.

US and Israeli officials denied American collusion in the attack. White House and State Department spokesmen insisted that the US had "no advance notice of Israel's aerial strike." The American officials made it clear that they were not "upset by the Israeli action."

America's latest special presidential envoy to the Middle East Donald Rumsfeld did "not utter a word of criticism" when Israeli Prime Minister Shamir described the attack to him, November 16, according to Israeli reports.

### Beirut Fighting

Meanwhile fighting in and around Beirut intensified this week. Reporters on the spot said the fighting was the heaviest since the September cease-fire agreement.

Both sides shelled each other's positions around the city, November 16, and Lebanese source said that four were killed and 28 injured. Syrian Foreign Minister Abd al-Halim Khaddam made a surprise visit to the Lebanese capital, November 16.

Fighting and shelling around the tension points separating the Druze militia forces of the Progressive Socialist Party, led by Jumblatt, and the Lebanese Army, aided by the Phalange militias, continued in Souq al-Gharb, the Shouf mountains, throughout the week.

In an Arabic broadcast, November 16, the BBC blamed what it called the extremist wing in the Phalange Party, lead by Fadi Afram, opposed to the closer ties between Lebanon and Syria and the reconciliation talks, as being responsible for the latest round of fighting.

# Israeli Policy Strikes at Camps

Two Palestinian were killed and another three wounded in shooting incidents in Tulkarm and Dheisheh, this week, as Israeli-Palestinian tension continued (see reports, page 1). A boy died in Jabaliya camp, Gaza Strip, under mysterious circumstances, November 14. No details are available on the incident.

Israeli authorities imposed repeated curfews — the hallmark of the new "shock syndrome" policy — on the refugee camps of Tulkarm, Kalandia, Dheisheh, near Bethlehem, and Jalazon, near Ramallah. Several residents were arrested and hundreds were interrogated in late-night roundups. Central Nablus was also reported curfewed.

In Dura, the Hebron district, locals stoned, November 15, the car of the head of the 'civil administration' in the West Bank, Shlomo Elia, as he tried to dedicate a municipal council building in the town with Mustafa Dudein, the founder of the Village Leagues in the West Bank.

Earlier Mizyed Abbas 'civil administrator' in Ramallah, had resigned over "differences" with 'civil administration' policy and to protest what he called anti-Druze discrimination.

The same day, Israeli authorities arrested three students at Najah University. An Israeli taxi driver who was stoned in central Nablus fired several bullets in the air, according to Israeli reports. In Balata camp, near Nablus, a Palestinian flag was raised.

There were demonstrations in Ramallah and al-Bireh, according to Israeli reports.

There were reports of a wave of arrests all over the occupied territories. The Israeli authorities concentrated on the refugee camps.

On Friday, November 11, there were demonstrations in solidarity with the PLO leadership after prayers at Al-Aqsa Mosque, in Jerusalem, in Nablus and Gaza City. The ongoing curfew on Dheisheh was briefly lifted.

The following day shots were fired at an Israeli car, near Kfar Saba (see adjacent article). The occupied territories were reported tense following the shooting dead of two Tulkarm youths.

Dheisheh was again curfewed after the shooting of three youths. Stone-throwing incidents were reported in Ramallah, Jenin, Halhoul and Jabaliya camp, in the Gaza Strip. Three cars were hit, local reports said, in the Nablus area. Five stores were closed by the military in Halhoul in retaliation for the stone-throwing incidents, according to officials.

A fourth steel barrier was erected at an entrance to the *qasabeh* quarter in the Old City of Nablus, November 14, in an attempt by the Israelis to quell stone-throwing, official reports said. Meanwhile, students at the local Najah University held a solidarity vigil with the PLO leadership. Students at the Lutheran School, Beit Hanina, Jerusalem, held a sit-in.

The curfews on Tulkarm and Jalazon were lifted, while a curfew in Dheisheh was reimposed two hours after it was lifted after renewed outbreaks of stone throwing.

Israel Radio reported, November 10, the wider use of collective punishment against curfewed communities. It said that four times recently men of Dheisheh camp were made to stand outside all night. *(for details of military discussions see page 4)*

# Qalqilyans Jailed Following Attacks on Israelis

Israeli military authorities detained a number of Qalqiliya residents, November 9, following an explosion in the nearby Israeli town of Kfar Saba. One local youth, Abd al-Rahman Nofal, was seriously wounded in the blast.

Nofal, who is now being treated in Meir Hospital, Kfar Saba, under Israeli police guard, was wounded in the arm, shoulder, and left eye after the explosion, November 4. Israeli military authorities apparently believe that he was planting the bomb when it exploded.

On the same evening, Israeli soldiers arrested his two brothers, Hazem and Saleh, and took them to the Jenin prison. According to well-informed sources, 25 more youths, many of whom are from the Nofal family, have also been detained and are now being questioned on the incident.

In a related story, the Israeli Army placed the town of Qalqiliya under curfew for about 12 hours, November 13, after an armed attack on an Israeli car in the west of the city. The Israeli government-owned Arabic language news organ *Al Anba* which wrote on the incident did not mention whether there were any casualties or whether any arrests were made.

In the past three months, at least four armed attacks against Israeli targets were reported in the small triangle area of Nablus, Tulkarm and Qalqiliya.

# Dheisheh Youths Wounded in Mystery Clash

Three youths were wounded (November 13) in Dheisheh refugee camp, near Bethlehem, during a demonstration. Ali Sharif was wounded in the leg, Mahmoud was wounded in the elbow and Khalad Shaker in the chest.

Military sources said, explaining the wounding of the youths, that a border police unit was attacked with stones and heavy objects from one of the houses and the crowd tried to grab their weapons. One of the policemen was wounded in the head by a stone. During efforts to rescue them, border policemen fired warnings shots and the demonstrators were wounded by them.

Residents in the camp say that the gunners were not security men but settlers who broke into the curfewed camp. Security sources deny this version. (Translation: HaAretz, November 14, 1983).

The original report stated only that border police were attacked while on duty in the camp, but Arab sources there consistently claimed that those involved were settlers or Israelis dressed as Arabs. It now appears that the border policemen were attacked when they tried to arrest one of the residents and opened fire when they felt their lives were in danger. (Translation: Jerusalem Post, November 16, 1983).

# Order Nisi on BZU Student's Detention

The Israeli High Court issued an order *nisi*, November 13, ordering the Israeli military governor of the West Bank and the director of Jenin prison to show cause why Nayef Sweitat, chairman of the Bir Zeit University students' council, should remain in detention. Nayef Sweitat remains in Jenin prison.

Sweitat was picked up by soldiers from the Jenin police station, October 10, after answering a summons to receive a town restriction order.

Last October 26, the student's lawyer applied to the Jenin military court for his release on bail. The court, however, rejected the appeal, citing "classified" information against him. In its report on the case, *The Jerusalem Post* said that the information is related to his "making contacts with the Fatah group in Syria."

Lawyer Felicia Langer said she was not aware of any charges against him.

Following his detention, Sweitat, who spent six years in Israeli prisons on political charges, was remanded for 15 days. Again the decision to remand Sweitat was based on "classified" reports.

The student activist's detention was extended for 11 days, November 9, without the knowledge of his lawyers. Earlier in the day, lawyer Jawad Boulos, who represents Sweitat, contacted Jenin police and asked whether his client was to be brought to court. He was unable to get an answer. The police, the lawyer reports, said he should "call at another time."

The Israeli order *nisi* requires the military prosecution and the director of Jenin prison to appear before the court within three days to explain the reasons for holding the student.

The case is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16. (Translation: local papers, November 14, 1983).

# Baramki Charged with Incitement

Dr Gabi Baramki, Bir Zeit University vice-president, was held for 12 hours at Ramallah military headquarters, November 9. He was charged with inciting students against the occupation and released on bail.

The issue of teachers' work permits moved from crisis to stalemate in the course of the week. Some foreign passport-holding staff were initially given orders to leave the West Bank, but there were reports at the end of the week that a compromise was in the offing.

Israeli authorities summoned Baramki at 8:30 am to the military headquarters in Beit El and interrogated him about an alleged speech and the issue of foreign teachers signing the anti-PLO work permit applications, according to BZU sources.

Israeli military authorities reportedly told Baramki that they had received information about a speech he made during a student rally. They alleged he told the students "not to fight each other but rather to turn their arms against the Zionist enemies," the sources said. The student rally, November 7, was in support of the legitimate PLO leadership. Speakers denounced the internal fighting in Tripoli.

Baramki told *Al Fajr* that he did not mention the word "Zionist" in his speech but referred to "enemies" in general. Baramki said he had denounced the massacres in Tripoli and called for national unity. He said he appealed to BZU students not to bring outside conflicts onto campus.

Baramki told *Al Fajr*, "We do not want Palestinian guns to be turned on Palestinians."

He said he was also questioned about adjustments in the work permit application form. Baramki said that the university attitude is to give foreign teachers the opportunity to either agree to sign or not. Some sources suggested the administration may be charged with fraud for deleting offensive passages from the Israeli form. The charges were repeated on Israel Radio, November 13 and 14. In a rebuttal, BZU denied Baramki had been charged and called the radio station's 'innuendos' "grossly unfair."

Israeli occupation authorities summoned 20 foreign passport-holders, November 10, to occupation headquarters at Beit El. Teachers said they were given seven days to either sign or leave the West Bank. According to a BZU statement, the teachers were detained until 10:00 pm.

Bir Zeit University picked up permit applications from military headquarters, November 5. A passage at the end of the form stating that teachers would accept conditions of which they "will be informed" was deleted. The forms were filled out and filed immediately, and were initially accepted by military officials, BZU sources point out.

According to staff at the Ramallah area university, the military are now suggesting that fraud charges may be filed against them because of the changes in the forms.

There were reports, November 15, however, that a compromise may be in the offing, and the expulsion threat has been stayed.

Judy Blanc, member of the Israeli Committee in Solidarity with Bir Zeit University, said they were "unequivocally opposed to any attempt in any guise to impose political control on the university. We support the university's right to function in academic freedom without interference from the Israeli authorities."

Last academic year the Israeli authorities tried to impose an anti-PLO undertaking on foreign passport-holders applying for permits to teach at local universities.

During the conflict, over 30 teachers, most of them Palestinians with other citizenship, were deported. Most others were forbidden to enter the campus.

# 'Hard Hand' Against Throwing Stones

Residents of the refugee camps of Dheisheh, near Bethlehem, and Jalazon, near Ramallah, said, November 10, that troops took local men outside the camps for the whole night.

Army sources said line-ups were organised in the camps to identify people who "infringed order" and threw stones, but these only lasted a short time. The sources said the army is determined to end infringements of order and stone throwing and will use a 'hard hand' against all offenders. (Translation: HaAretz, November 11, 1983).

# Defence Ministry Discusses West Bank 'Security Situation'

Further discussion took place, November 13, in the defence minister's bureau in Tel Aviv about the situation in the occupied territories, with the participation of Defence Minister Moshe Arens, coordinator for military activities in the occupied territories Binyamin Ben Eliezer and the head of 'civil administration' in (the West Bank) Shlomo Elia and their aids.

The discussion was primarily about the deterioration of the security situation (in the West Bank), which led to the killing and wounding of demonstrators, and ways to locate the reasons for the trouble, Israeli reporters were told.

It is not yet clear how the discussion was concluded, but it is presumed, *Al Hamishmar* said, that the view was expressed that it is not enough to introduce tough measures but that it is necessary to examine how to bring "a positive atmosphere" to the (West) Bank. The defence minister met a delegation of (West Bank) settlers before the meeting.

### The Settlers Demand Toughness

An *Al Hamishmar* correspondent was told that the primary subject of discussion was the security situation on roads. Settlers have been demanding for some time the introduction of a firm hand against stone throwers. So far the defence minister has objected, saying the situation is "not severe." At the end of the meeting with the settlers, however, Arens gave his opinion that the security situatoin in the (occupied) territories is unbearable and the security establishment will do whatever it can to see that this situation does not continue. *The efforts will be made according to standards acceptable by the state of Israel and the Israeli Army.* Settlers told *Al Hamishmar* that they left the discussion "satisfied" and that it was "good." (Translation: Al Hamishmar, November 14, 1983).

# Neve Tertza Women Get Support

Over 50 Palestinian and Israeli women from Women Against Occupation and the Women's Democratic Movement protested for two hours, November 11, outside Neve Tertza prison, Ramle, calling for an end to the "oppression against the Palestinian prisoners." There was no police interference with the demonstration.

Orna Rone, a member of Women Against Occupation, told *Al Fajr* that the general situation of the prisoners is getting worse and worse "but the continued struggle against oppression will put pressure on the Israeli authorities."

Lawyer Felicia Langer told protesters that during her recent visit to the jail she saw yellow stains on the clothes of the prisoners who had been sprayed with tear gas. Langer said she did not know what kind of gas it was.

The spokesman of the Prisons Administration denied that there is general oppression of Palestinian women in Israeli jails. He said that the teargassing took place because of clashes after prison guards tried to confiscate the prisoners' books.

Thirty-two Palestinian women have been on strike since last July, refusing to work as servants in the prison kitchen.

The prison authorities have deprived the prisoners of all privileges.

# Jeninis Get New 'Mayor'

The Israeli 'civil administration' appointed a new mayor for Jenin, November 6, replacing Shihab Sanouri, who was appointed to the post after the firing of the elected mayor, Ahmad Shawqi Mahmoud, last year.

Abd al-Rahman Lahlouh, who is described locally as "pro-Jordanian," will head a four-member committee which administrate the municipal affairs in Jenin for the Israelis. The committee consists of Mohammed Jarrar, Mustafa Ahmad Ashur, Dr Nayef Staiteh and Ibrahim Nasser.

Dr Staiteh, who was recently appointed as head of the Jenin health department, is known for his links with the Israeli-established Village Leagues. He was fired by the West Bank health department two years ago for malpractice.

Shihab Sanouri submitted his resignation to the Israeli 'civil administration' head, Shlomo Elia, stating there was no public support for him.

During his term, Sanouri carried out systematic harassment by cutting off the water and electricity of his political opponents and personal enemies.

He was also involved, Jenin residents remember, along with his sons, in putting down demonstrations and instituted a system by which anybody wishing to obtain construction permits had to "donate" money to his office.

The first public act of the newly appointed mayor was to publish a notice in *Al Quds* newspaper greeting King Hussein on the occasion of his birthday, November 14.

# Druze Demand End to Draft

The Druze Initiative Committee based in Shafa 'Amr distributed, November 15, a leaflet in western Galilee villages calling on the Israeli government to abolish compulsory military service for Druze.

In the leaflets, which were in the form of statements, members of the committee wrote that the Druze in Israel do not aspire to a "blood-pact with the "Jewish people but a peace treaty" that would enable them to live with all the communities and peoples in the country and the region.

Druze circles which are close to the authorities claim the DIC only represents a small minority. DIC has lists of hundreds of resisters and deserters from Israeli Army service. It is well-known among Israeli resisters to military service. *Al Hamishmar* noted, that there are constantly Druze resisters, deserters and dodgers in Israeli military jails. (Translation: Al Hamishmar, November 16, 1983).

**THIS WEEK'S CENSORSHIP**

**Following is a breakdown of censorship cuts for issue 185, November 18, 1983:**

**Number of original articles submitted to censors . . . . . .24**
**Number of articles totally censored out . . . . . .8**
**Number of articles mutilated beyond use . . . . . .2**
**Number of articles passed . . . . . .14**

# US Palestinians Against Internal Fighting

by Ghassan Bishara

**Palestinians in the US overwhelmingly support Chairman Yasir Arafat, PLO unity and reforms, and are against the present military confrontation in north Lebanon, according to a telephone poll conducted by *Al Fajr*'s Washington office.**

***Al Fajr* called, this week, 50 Palestinians in all parts of the US and questioned them on the present differences within Fatah and the PLO, their opinions of the government of Syria, the status of the PLO and the Palestinian issue.**

**The admittedly unscientific poll was conducted before the intensification of fighting around Tripoli in the week of November. The sample, however, represents a cross-section of the Palestinian community here, ranging from university professors to housewives, shopkeepers and students. They reside in 19 US states and have lived in the US from between one to 33 years.**

Do you support the idea that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people?

| Yes | | No | |
|---|---|---|---|
| No. | %age | No. | %age |
| 50 | 100 | — | — |

Who do you blame most for the continuation of the Palestinian problem, or its lack of resolution?

| %age | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| US | US+Arabs | Israel | PLO |
| 20 | 46 | 20 | 14 |

Are you aware of (the Syrian expulsion of Yasir Arafat and their refusal to allow Abu Jihad entry)?

| Yes | No |
|---|---|
| 84 | 16 |

What were your feelings about this?

| %age | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| v. angry | angry | not angry | unaffected | happy |
| 32 | 46 | 10 | 6 | 4 |

Were you more or less sympathetic to the PLO after Syria's acts?

| more sympath. | unchanged | less symp. | no opinion |
|---|---|---|---|
| 64 | 20 | 8 | 8 |

Is the PLO important?

| very imp. | imp. | not imp. |
|---|---|---|
| 96 | 4 | — |

Will a split in Fatah weaken the PLO?

| Yes | No | Not sure |
|---|---|---|
| 70 | 22 | 8 |

Do you believe reports that Syria is trying to get the remaining Fatah forces out of Lebanon?

| Yes | No | Don't know |
|---|---|---|
| 58 | 34 | 8 |

Would the removal of Fatah forces from north Lebanon have a negative affect on the overall Palestinian situation?

| Yes | No | Not Sure |
|---|---|---|
| 76 | 20 | 4 |

How do you evaluate the attitude and handling of the Palestinian issue by the Syrian government since the Israeli invasion and the evacuation of Beirut?

| Satisfactory | Unsatisfactory | No different from any Arab government |
|---|---|---|
| 50 | 4 | 46 |

The Dawn
**AL FAJR**
Jerusalem Palestinian Weekly

Publisher:
Paul A. Ajlouny
Editor-in-Chief:
H.S.Siniora
Managing Editor:
Sam'an Khoury

Tel: (02) 281035
P.O. Box 19315
East Jerusalem

Telex no.s:
Jerusalem: 26467 omar il
Washington: 64677 omar uw

Al Fajr was founded in 1972 by Yusef Nasr, who edited the paper until his kidnapping in 1974. The English edition was first published in April 1980.
The Dawn (Al Fajr) Jerusalem Palestinian Weekly (UPS 686630) is published weekly for $40.00 per year by Paul Ajlouny, 16 Crowell St., Hempstead, N.Y. 11550. Second class postage paid at Hempstead, N.Y.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Al Fajr 2025 I Street N.W., Suite 925, Washington D.C., 20006.

# Between Hammer and Anvil

**A plan to rehabilitate Palestinian refugees residing in camps since 1948 scattered over the West Bank and Gaza Strip will be submitted to the Israeli cabinet early next week. Mordechai Ben Porat, Israeli minister without portfolio, is making final adjustments to it, and most probably he will be requested to implement it soon. .....**

**The above is what was Permitted by The Censor in JERUSALEM.**
**The following is uncensored Editorial Printed in U.S.**

A plan to rehabilitate Palestinian refugees residing in camps since 1948 scattered over the West Bank and Gaza Strip will be submitted to the Israeli cabinet early next week. Mordechai Ben Porat, Israeli minister without portfolio, is making final adjustments to it, and most probably he will be requested to implement it soon. Rumours have it that the plan includes the destruction of refugee homes adjacent to main West Bank roads.

Dheisheh camp residents appealed to the Israeli Supreme Court and got an interim order, November 15, that homes not be demolished or businesses closed pending a court decision.

The Israeli establishment is clearly preparing for liquidation of the camps. Security agents and official surveyors continue to take measurements of buildings in camps and defence supremo Moshe Arens and his sidekicks, military general Ben Eliezer and 'civil' Colonel Elia, hold top-level meetings to plan the next moves. When the supreme court accepts the "security" arguments, as it invariably has for the last 16 years of occupation, and with Israeli government approval the work could be carried out as quick as lightning.

The language and confidence with which Binyamin Ben Eliezer, the Israeli military coordinator of activities in the West Bank, spoke about the hastening of the plan, November 12, and the frankness of Arens when he promised Zionist settlers, November 14, that action will be taken to put an end to stone throwing indicate that the Israeli government is going to approve the proposed plan. This would leave the supreme court one choice: to dismiss the case on "security" grounds.

But if for unforseen reasons, including local, Arab and international pressure, the Israeli government does not approve the plan, are all these efforts going to be wasted? Or is the widely publicised plan going to be transferred to another arm – one as yet unbound by law – of the same establishment?

Just a reminder for history's sake. Mordechai Ben Porat is perhaps most infamous for the accusation made against him in the '50s by Iraqi Jews that he planned and executed the bombing of synagogues there. Then, the acts were carried out to "encourage" a reluctant Jewish community to "flee" to the newly-established state of Israel. What is he after in the West Bank?

AL FAJR – Jerusalem Palestinian Weekly

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: ONE YEAR: US$40

I WISH TO SUBSCRIBE TO AL FAJR

NAME. .....

ADDRES .....

ENCLOSED IS A CHEQUE FOR THE AMOUNT .....

DATE .....

SIGNED .....

Mail to:

In US
Al Fajr Palestinian Weekly
2025 Eye St. NW, Suite 925
Washington DC 20006 USA

# 'Civil War'?

**by Ghassan Bishara**
**Our Washington DC Correspondent**

A "Palestinian civil war," was how one American network described the tragic events in north Lebanon. Undoubtedly Palestinians can be found on both sides of the war – yet a civil war it really is not. It is unquestionably clear that non-Palestinians are playing a decisive role in the fighting and in making Palestinians fight each other. And despite Syrian and Libyan denials, the world media has to be blind and people ignorant and naive to take them seriously. Palestinians in the US are expressing their suport for the PLO, their rejection of Arab governments' attempts to control the PLO and their disapproval of the prospect of military confrontation between Palestinians.

Much has been printed about the ways in which differences can be resolved in a movement such as Fatah. Once more it has to be stated that these differences could have been and should have been resolved in a democratic and open dialogue, if the parties concerned so wished. In any case, there are no good reasons for factions within one movement, such as Fatah, to justify what is going on now in north Lebanon. That is, of course, unless non-Palestinian elements with a unique and known capacity and willingness to produce precisely the kind of tragic fighting occuring now in Tripoli and its environs have interfered. Palestinian refugee camps and the city of Tripoli are now the targets, replacing Beirut and Palestinian camps a few miles south. The bombing and shelling of Beirut was the work of Israel under Menachem Begin, Ariel Sharon and Rafael Eitan – dare we ask who is now behind the bombing and shelling of Nahr al-Bared, Baddawi and Tripoli?

Before the last attack on the two Palestinian camps, friends of Fatah dissidents in the US argued vehemently that the Syrian and Libyan Armies took no part in the fighting. Dissidents tried hard to argue that no Arab regime was

*continued on page 6*

# American Actions Sound Ominous Alarm

**by Livia Rokach**
**Our Rome Correspondent**

For the moment, the pouring rain seems to function as an efficient deterrent. But American reporters, who have flocked into Beirut in the past few days in larger numbers than ever before, including on the occasion of the bombing of the Marines base on October 23, keep predicting, privately, no doubt on the basis of information leaked by US intelligence sources, possibly with deliberate political intent, that "any day may be it." The "it" refers, of course, to the imminent large-scale US military operation which Washington continues to deny or play down, but which rapid developments on the ground this week alarmingly confirm.

The list of these developments is long and ominous. The Americans have deployed sophisticated missile-launchers in Aqura, in the Maronite mountain area of Keseruan, now declared a "military zone." Squadrons of US "Tomcats" stationed on board the carriers USS Eisenhower and USS Independence have intensified night flights over Beirut and the peaks of Mount Sannin, where defensive Syrian bastions are located. The more vulnerable Marine positions in south Beirut have been evacuated, and over 1000 Marines are now in the Beit Merry area, in the lower Metn. Last but not least, there have been sudden dramatic changes in the boundaries and role of the French contingent of the MNF in Beirut, which seem to indicate a total alignment of the Mitterand regime, notwithstanding its verbal statements of dissent, with US policies.

The installation of the US missile-launchers and the overflights indicate to military observers that Syrian positions in the Metn heights are the probabale target of US operations. The Tomcat overflights, seen as similar to those undertaken by the Israeli Airforce prior to the Lebanon invasion along the Syrian-Lebanese border, are seen equally as aimed at testing and attempting to electronically and with laser rays neutralise Syrian radar and their SAM missiles' capacity to strike back. The US media is already pre-justifying the strike under the pretext of a "pre-emptive action" against Soviet-made SS-21 missiles allegedly posted in the area which "could threaten" the massive US aero-naval forces stationed off Beirut. Political observers in Beirut are not even considering such justifications. They see the real goals of the operation as being: to turn the existing military balance of power in favour of the Amin Gemayel regime by weakening the protection of the Lebanese National Resistance Forces before the second round of the Geneva reconciliation talks; or alternatively, upon their failure, leading to a resumption of the Lebanese war on a wider scale. A secondary aim, the Beirut commentators say, is to hit the prestige and weaken the negotiating power of Damascus, in an attempt to force it to accept the Lebanese-Israeli accord.

The verbal escalation, following the incident this week in which a squadron of US planes was chased back to base by Syrian air defenses in the area targetted for attack, was extremely revealing in this sense. Washington's "warning" that "the US would respond if Syrian gunners continued shooting at their aircraft over Lebanon" and that "in Syria or elsewhere it cannot become a precedent that American citizens or American forces can be attacked without immunity" has revealed once more that the Reagan administration considers Lebanon as its own possession, possibly in tandum with Israel. This concept, observers note, has proved unacceptable and has in fact been violently rejected by the Lebanese people, as well as by Syria.

Damascus' response – pointing out to Reagan that there are "Red Lines" which the US forces are committed to respect, namely those running along Syrian deployment positions – indicates to observers that President Hafez al-Assad does not yet consider the political space available in the present situation exhausted. The exact deliniation of this political space is only partially clear presently, when put in relation to Amin Gemayel's forthcoming trip to Washington. But it is clear, Beirutis are saying, that if a military operation will in fact be undertaken, the Reagan administration, having ignored this indication, will have to assume upon itself the full responsibility for the local and possibly far-reaching international consequences of its aggression.

The visible attack preparations constitute, however, only one part of the US plans. Another aspect, taken as important by the US, consists of the widely expected "surgical operation against Shi'ite sanctuaries" in south Beirut and in other areas, principally Baalbeck. This option, so forcefully recommended last week in Washington by ex-Israeli Defence Minister Ariel Sharon, has Beirutis asking whether such an operation will actually be commanded by the Pentagon or by Israel's frustrated minister without portfolio.

According to reports reaching Rome, US escalation is strongly opposed by the Italian MNF contingent, but, it seems so far, without appreciable results. A "secret" military summit meeting of MNF commanders was held on Sunday, November 13, on board the US carrier USS Iwo Jima. General Franco Angioni, the Italian commander, was summoned, and reportedly an animated debate ensued with the Italian command in Beirut on how to avoid any involvement in an operation which would both cost the contingent a high casualty toll and, in the opinion of the military experts, inevitably end with a large-scale bloodbath for the civilian populations of the Beirut sectors, now to a large extent under Italian control.

# OPINION

AL FAJR invites our readers to contribute letters, articles and opinions. Contributions must be signed, but names may be withheld upon request.

## The Politics of the Jailers

*Letter to the editor,* Al Hamishmar:

Does the Israeli establishment have pity and mercy or is it revengeful and hating? It depends on the case.

If it relates to (former banker sentenced for fraud) Yehoshu'a Ben Zion — the biggest thief in Israel of modern times, Gush Emunim supporter and donor to Herut's Tel-Hai Fund — then the establishment has pity and mercy. It's a fact: out of the 14-years imprisonment he was sentenced to, they were satisfied with only two because of the good heart of then prime minister Menachem Begin and then president Ephraim Katzir. This was a combined action which joined Begin, the Herut man who symbolised the incoming establishment, and Professor Ephraim Katzir, the Labour man who represented the outgoing establishment. Both considered it right to join hands in releasing the arch-thief (in 1977) before he had even served 10 percent of his term.

In comparison with this, when it relates to Udi Adiv, who has rotted in an Israeli prison for more than 10 years now, the Israeli establishment is revengeful and hating. Those out for revenge and hate also come jointly from Herut and Mapai (the Israeli Labour Party). Like in the Ben-Zion case, there was also a collaboration between the two camps here.

Udi Adiv now admits that his contacts with the Syrians at the time he was sentenced and his trip to that country were mistakes. Why are they not prepared to release him? Because Udi Adiv remained a human being — he was not broken. He has not expressed ideological regret, he remains a socialist and he thinks that the state of Israel is mistaken in its basic approach to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and that its policies towards the Palestinian people are criminal. He continues to think that the Arabs are human beings who deserve at least the same rights as the Israelis.

Udi Adiv before his imprisonment

That is why they do not release a human being after 10 years in prison, one who, in spite of his suffering, has not become a common Israeli racist. He did not murder, did not rob, did not bombard Beirut, and thousands of dead and wounded were not added to his charges. He only tried to speak, indeed without permision, with the enemy. Therefore he is in jail and (ex-defence minister Ariel) Sharon and Raphul (ex-chief of staff Rafael Eitan) are free.

So deep is the Israeli desire for revenge that they refuse to permit Udi Adiv to have privacy with his new wife, thus refusing him the basic human right to reproduction. I presume that the thought that Udi Adiv would bring to the world some more small Udi Adivs fills the makers of the values of the Israeli Apartheid State with fear. Where would we be if Udi Adiv succeeded in advancing the Israeli peace camp through a few more active souls?

I fear that if Udi Adiv does not reconvert to Judaism, or at least join Gush Emunim or declare loyalty to the Herut movement, his imprisonment will not be shortened by even one day. They would like to see him broken. But Udi Adiv is seemingly made from a rare material — an expressive, unbreakable stone. And if he has to serve all 18 years, he will end them as a human being. When he leaves prison he will be able to get consolation from the fact that among those who always remained outside, there are many people, including the political, military and economic leaders, who are not as big as his little toe.

And if any of the decision makers in the case of Udi Adiv read these words and would like to prove that I'm mistaken, there will be nobody happier than me.

Because I wish to see Udi Adiv out of the prison.

Gidron Spiro, Jerusalem.
(Translation: Al Hamishmar, November 4, 1983).

MK Benny Shalita's request to the Prisons Service that Udi Adiv be enabled to marry and have privacy outside prison was finally rejected, according to the Israeli press, November 8. Dr Wertheimer, the prisons commisioner, stated that there is no way to provide such facilities. *Al Fajr* contributor Thoma Shick notes: "This a strange statement. Ten days ago a marriage was held in my house in Tel Aviv. The bridegroom was a serving prisoner who was given a one-week holiday from prison."

## Palestinian Identity

by Adnan Damiri

The PLO is not a cooperative or athletic club to which Palestinians apply for membership. The PLO represents the Palestinian identity which cannot be separated from their psychological nature.

The attempt by the dark forces to destroy the PLO is in itself an attempt to destroy the Palestinians' identity and character. This will be impossible. Attempts to annihilate whole peoples have been proven impossible throughout the many repressions carried out by criminals against the masses and their will.

The truth which the Syrian and Libyan rulers do not undertand is that the Palestinian leadership did not take command through a coup and will not be removed in that way, as was the case with their two regimes.

(Yasir) Arafat, who represents a part of the Palestinian self-image as an historic leader of the PLO, is not just an individual who can be eliminated by killing him or forcing him out. He was, and still is, the result of a long struggle which in 1965 developed a distinctive structure and appearance for the Palestinian individual.

This is not intended to be a glorification of Arafat or to build him up as infallible. Arafat is a human being who can make mistakes, particularly because he is always working. He does need people to correct him all the time but this cannot be done by killing the innocent and through sieges, destruction and containing the Palestinian identity. To correct and reform things is essentially good, but what is intended by (the present reformists) has been proven to be wrong by the crimes committed against the Palestinian people in Tripoli, Baddawi, Nahr al-Bared and before it in Tel al-Za'atar.

## Respect Cowboys

Dear Editors,

Your editorial in the October 28 issue refers to "cowboy president Ronald Reagan." This is an unfair insult to cowboys. The profession of the cowboy is an honest one, requiring hard work, skill, and dedication. The position of president is generally a dishonest one, requiring the talents of a swindler and the ethics of a mass murderer. Please show more respect to cowboys!!

Sincerely,
Bill Kelsey

Editors' note: We apologize to real cowboys.

*continued from page 5*

### 'CIVIL WAR'?

involved at all and that raising the issue of the Syrian Army and Libyan units was just another "loyalist" attempt to discredit them. This was the case before bombs started landing on the two Palestinian camps and on Tripoli, and as hard and impossible as that may be, Palestinians everywhere now hope that the fire power raining in on the camps is not from the guns of other Palestinians. Palestinians simply refuse to accept the argument that no Arab regime is involved, for that would lead them to conclude that the destruction is at the hands of Palestinian "heroes"...

It is, of course, in the name of reforms among the dissidents in Fatah and the PLO, backed by the "fully reformed" Arab governments of Libya and Syria, that the tragic events have been justified. Reforms are definitely needed, especially in a movement such as the PLO. Reforms are also a basic ingredient in a progressive movement with objectives such as Fatah. The question becomes, at what price? The medicine that is being offered to achieve reforms, if pursued, will leave no patient to cure.

The opinion of the Palestinian people must be considered, and those who want to claim their leadership must adhere to their views. The people have spoken in the occupied territories, in the areas taken in 1948, in Yarmouk, in Syria, in Jordan, in Lebanon and everywhere — but nobody is listening to them. Palestinian people in the US have also spoken. All are demanding an end to the shelling of the camps and Tripoli and the institution of reforms within the movement. The precedent being established in the PLO could make it just like any regime in the Middle East, necessitating violence and killing to achieve positive change. This is precisely what Palestinians wanted to avoid and the reason for which Arab masses granted them their sympathy and support.

Should US companies really consider 'Arab concerns' when it comes to starting businesses in conjunction with Israel in the occupied territories? Probably not, if the Hyatt Regency Hotel chain experience is anything to go by. **Maher Abu Khater** of *Al Fajr* found this company – whose chain stretches through the Arab world and which does good business with the American-Arab community – can quite openly flaunt international law and conventions and the stated policy of its own government by building its latest hotel in East Jerusalem on confiscated land.

# Hyatt Regency Goes Up on Expropriated Arab Land

Law is law, policy is policy, business is business and never the three shall meet, seems to characterise the US attitude to the world – and that 'tri lemma' will have to be resolved here soon.

For the first time since Israel occupied the West Bank, a well-known American company is in violation of stated official United States policy on the status of the occupied territories and particularly East Jerusalem.

The company in question is the Illinois-headquartered Hyatt International Corporation, a hotel chain. It is cooperating with an Israeli company, Regency Har Hatsofim (Mount Scopus) Ltd, to manage the Hyatt Regency Jerusalem Hotel currently being built in East Jerusalem on property expropriated from several Arab residents by the Israeli government in 1968. Hyatt's apparent flaunting of international law and conventions may have unexpected repercussions for it. The American company has branches throughout the Arab world, and in the US the Arab-American community regularly uses its facilities for conventions. Their reaction to Hyatt's East Jerusalem operations has yet to be made clear.

Official American policy, as reconfirmed by a US State Department spokesman as late as August 1983, clearly states: "We do not recognise Jerusalem as Israel's capital. We have never recognised unilateral action by any state in the area as affecting the status of Jerusalem. We regard East Jerusalem as occupied territory within the meaning of United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 and subject to international laws and conventions."

These same laws and conventions, according to Jonathan Kuttab, co-director of Law in the Service of Man, the Ramallah legal aid office, who has studied the legal status of the occupied territories, "forbid the acquisition of territory by force and state that it is illegal for an occupying force to alter the facts on the ground of the occupied territory except as necessary for its security purposes."

Based on US policy and international law, Israel's expropriation of Arab territory and Hyatt's changing of "facts on the ground" can be considered illegal particularly because Israel's actions in East Jerusalem are "unilateral," Kuttab points out. Any American company assisting Israel in its violations violates the policy of its own government. An official spokesman at the US Consulate in East Jerusalem declined comment on the legality of the Hyatt corporation actions on Jerusalem.

Officials may keep mum but a US district court in Washington DC is to begin hearings on a suit asking that tax exempt status be removed from several American Zionist organisations for violating that status by collecting and sending money to Israel, where it is used to "steal land, divert water, build settlements on Palestinian land and deny the rights of the Palestinian people," according to Mark Lane, attorney for the 15 Palestinian, Israeli and American plaintiffs. This suit may also touch on the issue of American companies violating official US policy regarding the status of Jerusalem and settlement building on the West Bank.

If the Hyatt corporation is not violating US policy or international law, it at least has acted in disregard for and neglect of the thousands of Arab-Americans who use Hyatt Regency facilities in America for their annual conventions. Groups which have used Hyatt Regency premises include the Ramallah Federation which, with 20,00 members, is the biggest single Palestinian-American organisation in the US and the National Association of Arab-Americans, the largest and most powerful Arab lobbying group in Washington DC.

A member of both the NAAA and the Association of Arab-American University Graduates who recently returned from the US told *Al Fajr*, "I am extremely disturbed to know that the Hyatt is an accessory to Israeli actions against the Palestinian citizens. It disturbs me more to know that the Hyatt has been involved in this for several years and nothing has been done about it by the Arab-American community in the US." He said he is going to contact other Arab-Americans and demand that their organisations "investigate this matter and take immediate action, including boycotting the hotel chain."

The Hyatt hotel is being built on 27 dunums of Arab land – part of 3445 dunums in the Mount Scopus area expropriated by Israel in 1968. The Regency Har Hatsofim company leases the land from the Israeli government. The area is owned by several Arab families from the village of Lifta who owned most of the property on and around Mount Scopus before Israel confiscated it. Many of them have been forced out of their homes to make way for the Hebrew University Social Sciences college and student dormitories, as well as for exclusively Jewish apartments. Some of the Palestinan families are still involved in litigation against government attempts to force them from homes in the same region in order to erect new Israeli residences.

**The Hyatt Hotel's East Jerusalem operation is going up on confiscated Palestinian land in violation of US and international law. The Hyatt corporation is concurrently acting in disregard for its Arab-American clients who frequently use Hyatt facilities for their conventions/MK photo**

An owner of almost 65 dunums on Mount Scopus – all confiscated in 1968 to build student dormitories – explains the reasoning the Israelis used to take the land: "The government claimed that the landowners were 'not present' and therefore considered the land unclaimed property." However, all of the families Israel called absentee were actually living in Ramallah, only a few miles north of Jerusalem. Ramallah is considered West Bank, while Jerusalem is annexed to Israel.

A member of the Obeidieh family, which also lost land, said Israel offered the families meager compensation, but they all refused to take the money. He said the company building the Hyatt Regency Jerusalem never checked with them concerning the land or offered them any rent. Abed Khalaf, who lives near the hotel, has retained maps and documents that prove his family is part-owner of the 27 dunums in question.

Regency Har Hatsofim, which is made up of three major shareholders, one Panamanian, the other Mexican and the third Israeli, has a contract with the Hyatt corporation to manage the hotel it is building. Another company, the Jerusalem Regency Hotel Ltd, was also created for the sole purpose of representing Hyatt in Israel. The Regency Har Hatsofim was registered in Israel on June 11, 1980. But on October 20, 1982, ownership was transferred to the Israeli government. There was no mention of money being involved in the transaction.

The Hyatt Regency Jerusalem has had several problems since construction began on it several years ago. At first the hotel was going to be 16 floors high, which would have given it an excellent panoramic view of the Old City but would also have blocked this view from the buildings behind, including the Hebrew University and the dormitories. Because of this and other problems having to do with contractors, construction was delayed. It was finally decided to build a ten-storey hotel horizontally rather than vertically. The Hyatt will be built like steps going up the mountain, with each level not to exceed two or three floors high. The hotel will have 600 rooms, and work on it is expected to be completed in April 1985, according to the site engineer, Mr Ross.

Across the road from the hotel site, an area known by the Palestinians living in that neighbourhood as al-Bayadah, are the newly built Israeli government offices. Around the hotel site as well there are some Arab homes almost lost between the huge buildings the Israeli government has erected in its efforts to alter the structure of Jerusalem. The Hebrew University hospital, Hadassah, is also behind the hotel, as well as an old Christian cemetery.

According to lawyer Kuttab, the new Hyatt Regency Jerusalem Hotel forms part of the Israeli settlement plan for East Jerusalem. It is part of the "inner circle of exclusively Jewish settlements that surround Arab Jerusalem with the specific purpose of cutting it off from the rest of the West Bank and changing its character, to Judaise it," Kuttab explained. He said the "inner circle" is made up of Ramat Eshkol, French Hill, Hyatt Regency and Hebrew University, Talpiot and East Talpiot. There is also the "outer circle," which extends from Ramot to Atarot, Kalandia, Neve Yakov, Neve Yakov South, Ma'ale Adumim and the East Talpiot-Gilo area.

**"Any American company assisting Israel in its violations violates the policy of its government."/MK photo**

# The Plight of Government Employees

Maher has been working in the meteorology office in a West Bank city for 15 years. He is now its deputy director. His salary, which he receives from the military government, was, at the end of October 1983, IS 17,000 (less than US 200).

Maher, his wife Nariman and their two young children cannot live on the salary. After spending all night reading barometres and wind speeds, Maher goes to work on a strip of land he has leased. In the afternoon, while Maher gets some sleep, his wife and children help out by picking whatever vegetables are in season. The same cycle is repeated every day.

Maher and Nariman's case is not unique. Almost all Palestinians working in government-related jobs have to find work on the side to make ends meet.

The absence in most developing countries of a viable industrial economy means the government normally becomes the largest single employer. Economically, the same situation exists in the West Bank. There is, however, no national government, and the presence of an occupying force makes proper economic development impossible.

For years the West Bank military government work force, which now exceeds 10,000, has tried to make internal complaints about their low pay. They have been ignored.

For teachers, the largest single category of employees — numbering about 7300, the last straw came in 1981. They organised in the General Committee of Government School Teachers in the West Bank and declared a protest strike.

It lasted 100 days and resulted in some wage adjustments.

The economic victory has had a political cost. The Israeli officer in charge of education has bent over backwards to break the GCGSTWB. Virtually all known leaders have been transferred to new schools long distances from their homes, fired, or forced into early retirement. The teachers are extremely badly paid, according to GCGSTWB members. Since the pedagogues' pioneering strike, most other professionals have considered similar action. Most recently the Physicians' Union made public their demand for a 100 percent increase in real wages earlier this month. The military immediately increased wages by 20 percent.

Although lawyers are not government employees, the increase in court fees has an indirect effect on their wages. The high fees lessen the number of clients and the ability of the clients to pay fees. Fees have been increased several hundred percent in dinar terms since 1967. *The Jerusalem Post Magazine* reported, November 1, that the justice department in the West Bank brings in a profit. *The Post* said that IS41 million have been collected in fees, while the budget of the court system runs at IS21 million.

Judges and court clerks are the only employees actually paid by the Israeli military government. The low wages paid to judges and clerks — senior judges currently get IS30,000 — make the jobs of honest lawyers that much more difficult because it is a "clear invitation to bribery and corruption," said one.

### Shekels vs. Dinars

The major complaint of all government employees in the West Bank is the difficulty of making ends meet because of low wages and the rapid devaluation of the Israeli shekel, against which they have no protection.

The situation has come to something of a head after the latest crisis in the Israeli economy, at the end of last October. Then the Israeli government banned possession of foreign currency. The move, which came after the Israeli shekel was devalued by 23 percent early in October, had a devastating effect on civil servants' pay. Whereas government pay is in Israeli shekels, most basic commodities and house rents in the occupied territories are calculated in other currencies — usually in the Jordanian dinar or the US dollar. The result was a real decrease in salary of between JD20 and 80. One West Bank physician, a specialist in his field, told *Al Fajr* there was a JD80 difference between his September and October salaries. The doctor said that his salary, which used to be worth JD210, is now worth only JD137. The smallest loss by government employees was JD20.

Hassan Odeh, engineer, works part-time at the Ramallah municipality. His salary at the end of October was IS16,700. This includes allowances for his experience, his qualifications and family allowances.

Azmi Abdallah is a Ramallah school teacher. After four years of teaching, his salary is still a low IS20,300. Azmi lives in al-Am'ari refugee camp. He told *Al Fajr* that a family of four in the West Bank needs about JD150 to meet living expenses, not including clothing or entertainment. Azmi has to work illegally at a travel agency in the afternoons and gives private lessons to make ends meet.

Palestinians on the Israeli government payroll are now complaining that it is no longer possible for them to meet their basic living needs. The highest salaries on the rolls — for school headmasters, judges or doctors — were IS 30,000 last month. This is far below the average income of an Israeli family of four members. Unlike Israelis, Israeli military government regulations forbid Palestinian employees from taking outside employment.

According to the regulations imposed by the military government, Maher's work on the small strip of land is illegal. Actually Maher (not his real name) and all other government employees are forbidden to talk to the press. One government employed doctor, Dr Hussein Obeid, who broke the ban during the poisoning scare last spring, was quickly fired.

### Jordanian Role

Government employees are in a dilemma. Immediately after the 1967 war the Jordanian government agreed to continue paying all those employed before the occupation. The Israeli military government naturally paid these workers along with newly employed workers. Thus veteran employees were receiving two salaries. But as the occupation continues, this group has continued to diminish as the old government workers retired, left or passed away; thus a growing proportion of employees face real hardship. The Jordanian government has made promises to pay the new workers in the same way as lawyers are subsidised not to practice. One government worker explains, however, that subsidies for post-1967 employees have been faced with political conditions.

At one time in the late '70s the Jordanian government asked employees to sign memoranda and a number of documents relating to personal status. After meeting the bureaucratic procedures, however, nothing happened.

With no succes in getting a second salary from Amman, employees have found themselves in a desperate position. Fadel Ali, a government school teacher in Ramallah and member of the GCGSTWB, explains: "We have requested increases in our salaries in every possible way. All our written requests are ignored, and when we ask to establish any kind of collective representative body we are not allowed."

Ali explains that the West Bank teachers' request is that the Israeli military government — as an occupying power — pay them at the same level as Jordanian government employees. "According to international law, all laws and regulations present before occupation must continue to be enforced by the occupiers," Ali says, noting that his salary which is equivalent to JD115 would be over JD200 if he were paid according to his grade in Jordan.

Civil servants argue that the military government does not even adjust their salaries in accordance with the cost-of-living increases which all Israeli workers and employees are awarded. The military government only adjusts salaries to 80 percent of the seasonal cost-of-living. In real terms West Bank workers are able to buy less and less every month, despite ostensible pay rises.

| Grade | West Bank Salary In September * | | Israeli Salary In September *** | | West Bank Salary In October | | Israeli Salary In October | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | IS19,083 | JD112 ** | | | IS22,900 | JD97 | | |
| 4 | 17,500 | 102 | | | 21,000 | 89 | | |
| 5 | 16,750 | 98 | IS 31,784 | JD187 | 20,100 | 85 | IS 38,500 | JD 162 |
| 6 | 15,750 | 93 | 29,877 | 176 | 18,900 | 80 | 36,000 | 153 |
| 7 | 14,833 | 87 | 26,149 | 154 | 17,800 | 76 | 31,500 | 134 |
| 8 | 13,833 | 81 | 24,580 | 146 | 16,600 | 71 | 29,619 | 126 |
| 9 | 12,833 | 75 | | | 15,400 | 66 | | |
| 10 | 11,833 | 70 | | | 14,200 | 60 | | |

*Salary scale is an average of each grade without additions for children, certificate and experience.

**1JD in September = IS170, 1JD in October = IS235

***Israeli teacher's salaries are not based on a grading system; their relative equivalents are shown on the chart.

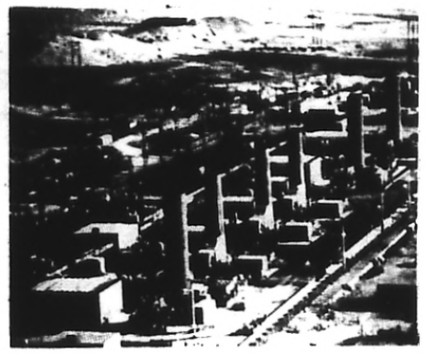


The current Israeli economic collapse is being carefully watched by political managers with a view to its impact on their constituencies. Meanwhile, as **Daoud Kuttab** of *Al Fajr* found on examination, the Palestinians in the occupied territories are being forced from poverty to the breadline by the conjunction of a tumbling shekel and military authorities unconcerned for its impact on their standard of living.

Meanwhile, **Yehuda Litani** of *HaAretz* predicts that the Palestinian labour force will be unlikely to suffer large-scale unemployment immediately. Ironically, the insistance on continuing settlement building regardless of damage to the economy will keep Arab construction workers busy for years to come.

# ECONOMIC HARDSHIPS IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA

**Government employees, from teachers to sewage workers, have been hard hit by the devaluation of the shekel and Israeli economic regulations. Unlike their Israeli counterparts, West Bank civil servants' salaries are not tied to cost-of-living increases and they are forbidden to take on second jobs. West Bank labourers working on Israeli construction sites and paid in shekels find it equally hard to survive. Due to the slump in the world oil market, travel to the Gulf is less and less attractive.**



**It's hard to get through the month, especially as the salaries have not increased to match the cost of food and basic neccessities. "It's not enough that you have brought upon us the troubles of occupation — now we have your economic troubles."**

## It's Hard to Make Ends Meet

Despite increases in the price of basic products and a quick and steep increase in the value of the dinar, there was no sense of impending economic crisis in the occupied territories in the last two weeks. As of yet there has been no decrease in the number of labourers working in Israel, there was no firing of employees in the local factories and no cutting of (military) government budgets. But worries and fears are accumulating. The crisis has indeed not yet started but it is already at the gate.

Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij claims that the West Bank municipalities are on the edge of bankruptcy, because (military) government payments arrived a month or two late. In the present inflationary conditions, he says, this has great economic significance.

A Ramallah businessman says that in Israel, everybody "ran" to the dollar, and in the West Bank, more than in the past, the inhabitants rushed to get rid of shekels by converting them into dinars, which are safer. This is also the reason that the value of the dinar went up in the West Bank from IS170 to IS230 within two weeks, and it's still climbing.

As in Israel, the poor people have problems: "It is simply impossible to finish the month," a woman from Beit Sahour said this week. Prices doubled within days, and the salaries remained the same. Elias Freij fears that there will now be a growth in robberies and break-ins to houses. In Israel, says Freij, occupied territories workers get their salaries in shekels: they return home to the West Bank, and here everything is managed on the basis of Jordanian dinars. Only two weeks ago they earned JD10 a day, for instance, and today their salary is down to JD6.

An East Jerusalem merchant asked me, this week, "What is the plural of Shekel?" "Shkalim," I replied. "No, down here they say the plural of shekel is *Mashakil* (troubles in Arabic). It's not enough that you have brought upon us the troubles of occupation — now we have your economic troubles. And we," added the merchant, "indeed feel that these are your troubles, not ours. We would prefer to be under American occupation — then we would suffer occupation but enjoy things economically."

Dr Rafael Meron, of the research department of the Bank of Israel, says that the high value of the dinar in shekels reflects the present situation in the Israeli market. Immediately after the relaxation of the Israeli market, the dinar will return, says Meron, to its value.

However, the real economic problems of the occupied territories' inhabitants have still not come to the surface. It seems that the basic fears of the people have some grounds. The stream of those leaving the occupied territories for work in various Arab countries, mainly in the petroleum exporting countries, decreased in the last year. It seems that this is connected to the slump in the world oil market. Last year, 13,000 men left the occupied territories. This year the number fell to 10,000. At the end of the '70s and beginning of the '80s a minimum of 16,000 men left the West Bank and the Gaza Strip each year. An additional economic fact that points to the difficulties is the constant drop in the growth of the local gross national product in the occupied territories: in 1979-80 — it was 6.5 percent; 1980-81 — 3.5 percent; and in 1981-82 — 1.4 percent.

The fastest development on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip has taken place mainly in the Israeli sector, in the settlements. Local investors and entrepreneurs gain government encouragement only if they are "our men," says an economist who worked in the past in the 'civil administration'. In his opinion, the first who will be hurt by any economic crisis in Israel are those from the occupied territories employed in services in Israel. Other workers, mainly those employed in construction, it seems, will not be hurt at this stage because in Israel and in the occupied territories construction is continuing at full speed.

The most affected sector in the territories are local workers whose salaries are paid by the government of Israel: teachers, officials, agricultural advisors, etc. Their salaries have hardly risen. They are not linked (to the cost-of-living index) and these salaries are ridiculous in comparison with those of people who do the same jobs for the government of Israel on the other side of the late 'green line'. This fact has and most seemingly will further create bitterness among workers. Those workers who are paid by the government of Jordan (those who were employed by it before 1967) are not hurt at all because the dinar is one of the most stable currencies in the world and is linked automatically to the pound Sterling.

The collapse of the stock market and the fall of share prices hardly affected the occupied territories' inhabitants, or at most very marginally. Savings for territories inhabitants means immediately linking their money, that is converting it into dinars. Immediately after the occupation of the territories, in June 1967, the Israeli authorities shut down the whole of the local banking structure, replacing it with an Israeli system.

However even before 1967, the use of banks was very limited. As in every agrarian society, most of the inhabitants believed in investing in property and gold, not bank notes. The use of banks is mainly limited to business with the Israeli administration or to receiving loans and grants from it. For business among themselves, the inhabitants usually totally ignore the banks. In many cases the money changers serve instead of the banks. Some people have bank accounts in Amman.

*****

The meaning for the occupied territories' population of a serious economic decline in Israel is, therefore, the end of jobs for Arab workers in the Israeli service sector and afterwards possibly also in industry and construction. This could lead primarily to social agitation that would be channeled through the (guerilla) organisations.

Ever since June 1967, the Israeli forces responsible for the occupied territories have feared such a situation. But now — with the impoverishment of the number of those leaving for work in the Arab states, with the decrease in the gross local and national product of the occupied territories and the fear of decline and unemployment in Israel — the fear of the development of this phenomenon is growing. (Translation: HaAretz, October 21, 1983).

## The Committee to Protect Journalists:

# Combatting Repression of the Press

**Protection of journalists is a topic close to any reporter's heart. International colleagues have in the past tended to ignore the situation in the West Bank under 'democratic' occupation. Recently, however, an American organisation, the Committee to Protect Journalists, has taken up the case of several locals. Nancy Jimison of Al Fajr went to see them in New York to find out about their work.**

**Palestinian and Israeli journalists protest the closure of *Al Fajr* newspaper in December 1981. "The point is to bring pressure, constant pressure, to bear and to make as many people as possible aware of the problems (journalists face)," says CPJ director David Chiel./JS photo**

*What do Turkey, the Philippines, Uruguay, Paraguay, South Africa and Israel have in common?*

*All have been targetted by the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), an American organisation founded in 1981 for the purpose of combatting mistreatment and repression of the press. The situation of the Palestinian press in the occupied territories under Israeli administration has not escaped its notice. Last January the committee published an article by Robert Friedman in its newsletter entitled "No Peace for West Bank Press." The article enumerated incidents of arrest, closure and censorship by Israeli military authorities which "confirm West Bank Arabs in their belief that freedom of political expression under Israeli rule is an illusion."*

*The CPJ is an independent organisation — non-partisan, non-ideological and non-governmental. Like Amnesty International, it seeks to protect vital human rights, regardless of the political views of either culprit or victim. One of its highest priorities is to be instrumental in the freeing of journalists who have been jailed although it is also concerned with censorship and newspaper closures. Another more long-range goal is to educate people, especially other journalists in the US, about the risk faced by their colleagues around the world. The committee's efforts have proven to be "most effective in countries dependent on American foreign aid and sensitive to their image in the US," wrote Howard LaFranchi in a recent* Christian Science Monitor *article.*

*The CPJ was founded by Laurie Nadel and Michael Mossing and has a number of prestigious American journalists on its board of directors. Walter Cronkite, the internationally reknowed celebrity-journalist, former anchorperson on CBS news, is honorary chairman. David Chiel, associate director of the committee, spoke with* Al Fajr *last month about the CPJ's work and problems.*

*Al Fajr:* **Are the steps you take along the same line as those of Amnesty (International) — letter writing campaigns and so forth?**

**David Chiel:** We use a variety of means, depending on the case and depending on the country. The first is to do as much research as possible — to get as much information on the individual or individuals involved, the policies of the country — to try to understand what's motivating the action. Armed with that information, we alert as many people as possible to the problem and ask them to join us often in conveying in whatever form, letter or cable, anything, their concern

**Q: And do you also contact foreign policy makers in the US?**

**A:** We deal quite regularly with our State Department in Washington and with key and influential members of Congress. And because we're an organisation of journalists working on behalf of journalists, we try to use the press to whatever extent possible to promote the cause.

**Q: How receptive is the US government when you tell them about Israeli oppression in the West Bank, censorship, closure and arrest?**

**A:** I think that given the nature of the problem in the West Bank and the complexity of the particular issue with respect to US foreign policy, foreign policy makers and the State Department are both concerned but also very much see these incidents as part of a much larger... problem.

On the West Bank the question of suppression of the press gets lost in the larger question of the rights of Palestinians, the right of Israel to exist — I mean all these other very important and larger questions that most people who are concerned about the situation in the Middle East normally tend to concentrate on. So it is sort of one sliver of a very, very complicated and also very, very intensely watched situation.

**Q: Is that unique to the occupied territories? Isn't repression of the press usually connected with repression in general?**

**A:** You're right. Repression of the press is not an isolated affair in any country. But because of the geopolitical concerns, I think, and some unique aspects of the situation in the Middle East, people tend not to look at it as (that) essential a problem. People give lip service to it, I think, but they talk about what they regard as more pressing problems — land issues, issues of the right of the Palestinians... to a homeland, whether Israel has a right to be, to exist and whether the other Arab countries should acknowledge its right to exist, these sort of more basic questions.

Usually you're not dealing with the question of a homeland for one people or another, which is a very basic and very important matter in any case, anywhere, and fought with great emotion, but especially so in the Middle East given the geopolitical concerns. Here you are in just an incredibly important part of the world. So those questions are the ones that people who really consider this matter really regard and concern themselves with.

**Q: And that sets the occupied territories apart from the other areas you work on?**

**A:** In the Philippines, in contradistinction, just to make the point, it's a very complicated issue too. There are great geopolitical concerns there and there are the concerns of the human rights of the people of the Philippines. But one gets the sense that the fact that there isn't very much of a free press in that country plays a much more central role in the whole debate... and becomes a very serious part of any discussion about human rights and democracy in the Philipines. People consider it more really than they do, I would say, the issue of the rights of the press in the West Bank.

And partly because the other factor... this is true though: in many, many countries, that people talk about security and what the risks are to Israel. But that is something that one hears in a lot of countries.

**Q: That's usually the rationale, isn't it?**

**A:** I would say, if I would point to one rationale more than any other, it's typically (that). When governments do respond to us, they will say, "Look, this isn't an incident as you say it is of oppression of the press or the right to expression and dissemination of news; rather it's a question of security. We're not detaining this person because he or she has written anything but rather because he or she is a security risk and represents a real threat to the welfare of our government or the welfare of the country politically." They always fall behind that.

**Q: I guess sometimes it seems like a real uphill climb.**

**A:** Yeah, I think that it is that way... it is long-term, it is uphill. The point is to bring pressure, constant pressure, to bear and to make as many people as possible aware of the problems. It's as much a kind of an educational thing as it is an advocacy enterprise. If there's anything I've learned working here it's that it is worth it to keep people informed of these problems, to spread the word, to let offending governments know that we know, or that other people know.

This is not some kind of generalised notion that's come to me, but rather, as I speak to other journalists, many of whom have suffered as victims of acts of oppression by one government or another, really to a person they've all said — it is worth it. When we find out afterwards or when we learn even when we are in prison that someone is making an effort on our behalf, it's not only uplifting in some way but we think it makes a difference. Many, many governments are very sensitive to this sort of thing.

Part of the irony is that given that they're so sensitive, they will not respond directly. In other words, if we make a widely-coordinated concerted campaign on someone's behalf, it is likely an offending government will not respond immediately because obviously they don't want to make it seem that they are so susceptible or sensitive to that sort of pressure.

**Q: Or that there is even a probe?**

**A:** Exactly. But in time they sometimes do improve, they do make changes and they do respond. And there are ways to let them know that kind of thing won't be tolerated. So I think it's worth it from that point of view.

**Q: Are your efforts more directed at getting people out of jail rather than censorship?**

**A:** We have to, given limited resources and everything, establish priorities. And, as you say, when an individual is arrested and his life and welfare is really threatened, that becomes a more pressing issue than if a newspaper is shut down.

But we in no way try to shy away from cases involving newspapers or journals that have been shut down. We really do feel strongly that this is more than a cause on behalf of journalists. To be sure, people who comprise our board of directors, as journalists, are concerned for their colleagues. But at the same time I think they would to a person adhere to the view that a sound democracy, a healthy democracy or a healthy state require freedom of the press. So the welfare of journalists goes far beyond the welfare of one professional group. When the press is threatened or harassed, really, clearly, the entire society will suffer.

# A STRANGER IN FACE, HAND AND TONGUE

by Said al-Ghazali

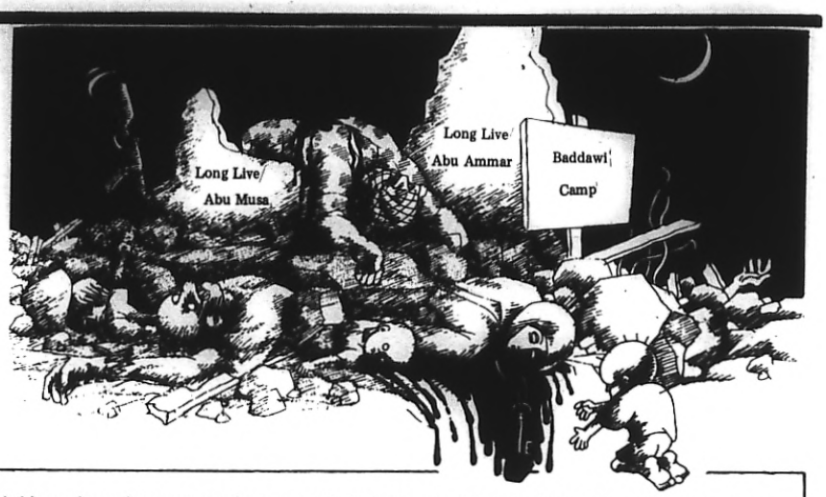
*There are orchards, orchards blossoming,*
*equatorial rains flowing from my eyes.*
*There are water fountains ... my heart,*
*Rashid's* cloud, markets, inns, distant roads.*
*Over there my hand, my tent*
*extend over stretched paths.*
*A horizon is awakened,*
*people are awakened,*
*a universe is awakened,*
*And you stand there alone and a stranger.*
*I walk ... walk ... walk ...*
*I meet shells, grass, clouds, rivers,*
*I face long, long, long nights.*
*If I forget my sun, I forget you, my poem,*
*I forget you, my dear soul.*
*I meet a rose*
*whose leaves grow very long,*
*whose scent spreads.*
*I meet orange groves:*
*children of groves*
*children of songs*
*children of sweet basil*
*children of camps*
*children of deserted towns*
*children of occupied towns*
*children of deported towns.*
*I meet oppressed children:*
*oppressed in our eyelids' poems,*
*in our eyelids' conciousness,*
*in our fallen Arab sun.*
*If I forget my mother,*
*I have no cause.*
*I grew in the warmness*
*of your heart, oh, kind mother.*
*I became streams of roses,*
*clouds of doves,*
*clouds,*
*clouds of clouds,*
*hail,*
*water ... water... water ...*
*Suddenly the brutal planes dive.*
*A sweet basil grieves,*
*A willow grieves,*
*A woman's heart grieves,*
*A poem grieves,*
*Saddness grieves,*
*The earth is weeping,*
*The roses lose their colour and songs,*
*The lover does not come to her rendezvous,*
*And I walk as a stranger in face, hand and tongue*
*in a homeland extending*
*from desert to desert.*
*I walk with a Palestinian*
*face*
*hand*
*and tongue*
*in a collapsing homeland.*
*I walk with my eyes looking at*
*the sun and the struggling arenas,*
*as a poet who dreams of humans*
*and their wonderful life.*
*As a lover of life, a giant of poverty,*
*I walk.*
*The seasons of earth are my lovers.*
*The heart pours out*
*the heart pours out*
*pours out*
*I love you — it pours out.*
*Oh you, daughter of curiosity*
*and long, long wretchedness*
*Long wretchedness*
*daughter of long wretchedness*
*centuries of wretchedness*
*centuries*
*centuries*
*centuries,*
*from hell to hell to hell*
*I walk and write poetry.*
*What's the worth of poetry*
*in the world of blunder?*
*Down with poetry.*
*Not down with poetry.*
*The flowers blossom in my heart.*
*I dream,*
*I pick flowers from my heart,*
*I write a poem extending*
*within the map's distance.*
*Down with poetry.*
*Not down with poetry.*
*The planes dive.*
*The dreams are steadfast*
*and gardens blossom.*
*The planes dive.*
*From your heart, oh, torch of soul,*
*I expand.*
*Your longing is my tent and home.*
*I sleep in your eyes.*
*The poetry rises from your eyes —*
*the trees*
*and the rivers of the occupied homeland grow.*
*The heart dies ... dies ... dies ...*
*The soul's rose remains,*
*thrown by waves on a shore,*
*not consumed in fire,*
*it lives on ... lives on ... lives on ...*
*its leaves cover the face of the world.*
*"A dreaming poet," he said.*
*The planes dived.*
*My face is a stranger's.*
*Alone I am facing the planes,*
*dreaming? Am I dreaming?*
*Where are the endless Arab armies?*
*Where is the Arab League?*
*Where?*
*The desert has a merciful heart.*
*The stone has a merciful heart.*
*Death has a merciful heart.*
*The face has the Palestinian look.*
*The heart has the Palestinian beat.*
*My tongue is a Palestinian, speaking*
*in Arabic*
*in a homeland extending from*
*wailing to wailing.*
*The night is a long, long pavilion.*
*My words,*
*my dreams and wailing heart are exhausted,*
*the heart silent, the stone dumb,*
*my widowed soul silent.*
*"A poet killed by his dream,"*
*he said.*
*The twentieth century barbarians*
*are at the gates of our big homeland.*
*They assassinate my soul.*
*I am the stranger.*
*My blood is the daily terror.*
*I am the ghost*
*I am the ghost.*
*Be aware.*
*Do not come closer to my corpse.*
*I am the ghost and the murdered childhood.*
*My blood is the terror.*
*Peace be upon me when I die*
*and when I rise a militant.*
*My blood is terror*
*I am the stranger.*

**(Translation:**
**Al Fajr al-Adabi, No. 38,**
**November, 1983).**

* * *

*** Harun Rashid was a prosperous Abbasid Caliph.**

# WINDOW ON THE ARAB PRESS




The Palestinian press concentrated this week on the coverage of events in the Tripoli area. Editorials, lead stories and features about the fighting around Palestinian camps, negotiations and West Bank reactions were the main focus of all papers.

The West Bank reactions, which included stone throwing at Israeli vehicles, and the Israeli reactions to it, including the killing of two and wounding of three youths, also made the front pages.

Al Quds used the issue of internal fighting to divert attention to the Hashemite regime and raised the possibility of its playing a role in a Palestinian settlement.

## The Need for Unity

It is natural to expect all Arab nationalist forces to be united against the imperialist aggression aimed at all of us. At this time there is more need for unity to confront this aggression and the many warships off Arab shores. Arab leaders keep talking about a possible aggression and negotiating with the Israeli government on how to carry it out.

If the fighting in Lebanon is hurting the PLO and its cause, it is hurting all the forces targeted by the imperialists as well, including Syria. If Syria has the right to mobilise its forces, it should get more involved in stopping the fighting in north Lebanon.

The expected aggression cannot be confronted only by calling up the reserves. It requires total unity among all the Arab liberation movements and the Arab masses. This cannot occur if the fighting in Lebanon continues or if the Palestinian-Syrian dispute is not resolved.

Syria and all the warring Palestinian groups are urged to put aside all the secondary issues and work for unity to face the real danger coming from the imperialist forces and increased chances for military intervention. This means immediate action to stop the fighting and begin a dialogue that would preserve the unity of the PLO and set the ground for Syrian-Lebanese nationalist cooperation. Unity among all these forces is bound to win popular support and strengthen struggle against any aggression.

AL TALIA
November 10

## The Odd Sounds

Strange voices were heard recently, here and outside, doubting that the PLO is going to continue. This was clear in the messages of loyalty sent by some of the Palestinians to their lords (sic) and in the meetings held between them. These people are still, in spite of what they are doing, shedding crocodile tears for the fate of the PLO.

These surrogate men are well-known to our people. They are waiting for the moment to get what they want. But they should know that the PLO is a legitimate representative of the Palestinian people's hopes and ambitions. It is therefore present in the hearts of all the people. The question of its existence is not tied up with the presence of one particular leader or party; its existence depends on the continuing survival of the people who support it and support its programmes.

AL MITHAQ
November 12

## The Soviet Role

The honourable position of the socialist countries, led by the Soviet Union, regarding the PLO, makes these countries a strategic ally of the Palestinian people represented in their legitimate leadership. These countries affirmed their position through their constant support for Arab rights and help for the Palestinian people in their difficult situations.

This position was made clear when the Soviet ambassador to Tunis expressed his country's support for the PLO and its leader. The Soviet position was made clear when the ambassador said his country will not allow the PLO under its current leadership to be liquidated.

Some troublemakers tried to question the Soviet role and smear it. They accused the Soviet Union of being vague and unsupportive of the Palestinian people and their leadership. But the Soviet position is always above these doubts, and only small-minded people would question it.

From this we want to ask the Soviet Union to put more pressure on Syria and Libya to end their aggression on the Palestinian people and its leadership. The Soviet role should increase until the Palestinians get their rights.

AL FAJR
November 12

## Failure to Confront the Enemy

The consequences of the fighting in Lebanon will not be an independent state or achievement of the right to self-determination, neither will it reduce economic and social hardships of the Palestinian people.

The fighting among the brothers-in-arms will not return the occupied Golan Heights nor alleviate the sufferings of the Lebanese people. It will not bring about the least bit of stability in Lebanon and it will not further the cause of the Arab countries; neither will it create a strategy for peace or war that the Arabs can agree on, nor increase public support and understanding for the Arab cause.

The results of this fighting will not increase sympathy and moral support for the cause from friendly nations, the non-aligned nations and whatever is left of the third world countries.

It will not push forward official American and European recognition of the Palestinian movement. It will not strengthen the Israelis opposing official government policy.

The fighting will not bring a better life for the Palestinian refugees or the Palestinians living in the diaspora.

If this fighting does not serve our ambitions, what then can be accomplished from it? Maybe the best answer for this lies in considering what the fighting will not accomplish.

In spite of all this we come back and say that any group that fails to confront its main enemy usually turns to fighting itself. Maybe this is happening now.

AL QUDS
NOVEMBER 13

## Stop Terrorising Our People

Two Palestinians, Ibrahim Bishara, 20, and Amer Salameh, 19, were killed Saturday in Tulkarm. These two martyrs have joined the other martyrs who have fallen as victims of the Israeli occupation's terrorism in the occupied territories since 1967.

It is very important at this time to tie this crime in with other Israeli plans, particularly as Defence Minister Arens accused the Palestinians of being "gangs of terrorists" in front of the Knesset, November 9. He also revealed the true racist intentions of the occupation — a wish that the people of the occupied territories will become desparate and surrender to the occupation in light of the bloody clashes between the Palestinians in Tripoli.

But how can the occupation keep its sanity as it watches the united and steadfast people in the occupied lands rise in big demonstrations urging the brothers to stop the fighting and expressing their anger at the occupation?

New "security" minister Arens was talking calmly and appearing as a 'civilised gentleman'. But the truth is, Arens' 'gentlemanliness' is no less barbaric than his predecessor's, Ariel Sharon. What did Arens mean when he said yesterday, in a meeting with settlers, that the West Bank roads are becoming unsafe and that he is going to bring "security" and "order" back to the West Bank? Is what the occupation forces did in Tulkarm an indication of its policy in the occupied territories?

We urge the public opinion, locally and internationally, to rise in support of the heroic people of the occupied lands and against the new terrorism of the occupation, in order to put an immediate end to measures of suppression and collective punishment. We are confident that the people of the occupied territories will be able to stop this Israeli attack with their own bodies. We hope this position will help in ending the dispute among the brothers in Tripoli. A united people steadfast on their land is bound to be victorious. If the Israeli occupation is confident of its military power, history has told us that a more powerful and cruel occupation was defeated and extinguished and the people survived.

AL ITTIHAD
November 14

## The Required

As the Syrian, Libyan and rebel forces continue in their violation of the cease-fire and their shelling of the Palestinian camps, there is urgent need for increased effort to pressure Damascus to stop its aggression.

Ending the aggression, returning normal life to the camps, withdrawing forces and giving guarantees that the camps or Tripoli will not be invaded are essential elements if this issue is to be resolved politically.

The Palestinian leadership has decided not to get itself bogged down in a conflict with Syria or any of the Arab countries. It is also ready to establish good relations with any country that will honour Palestinian unity and independence. Palestinian officials have declared that they are ready to negotiate with all the parties, once the aggression and siege in north Lebanon ends.

If Syria is talking about dangers coming from the US, then it should establish balanced relations with the PLO and honour its decision. But to hit the PLO and its legitimate leadership is a service to the imperialist plans and a stab to the Arab liberation movement, as well as a crime against the Palestinian and Arab people.

AL SHAAB
November 15

## Artist Charged with Violation of Town Arrest

The magistrates court in Nazareth postponed, November 11, the case against artist Jamil Asa'ad from Kufr Kanna. He is charged with violating a town arrest order by leaving his home after sunset and not reporting to the police station daily.

According to the charge sheet, police officer Jaber Artoul and Issam Hazimeh went to Asa'ad's house, September 30, and attempted to hand him a restriction order. When Asa'ad refused to take the restriction order, the two policemen read it to him.

The charge sheet said that later officer Rafi Levy made a surprise visit to Asa'ad's house but he did not find him there.

In the court, Asa'ad said that he did not learn about the town arrest order until two weeks ago when he was arrested and held for 48 hours on charges of violating it.

Amir Drori, the former general commander of the northern district, issued the restriction order for six months, September 20, according to the prosecution.

Jamil Asa'ad told the court that he was not at home when the police came to give him the restriction order. The order gives no reason for the restriction.

Jamil Asa'ad is a singer whose nationalist songs are in demand at weddings and parties all over the Galilee.

The hearing was postponed to December 29. (Translation: Al Ittihad, November 11, 1983).

## Five New Settlements

The joint Israeli government—World Zionist Organisation Settlement Committee, headed by Tehiya MK Yuval Ne'eman, minister of science, approved the establishment of four new settlements in the West Bank and a fifth in the Galilee, November 14.

The decision calls for the conversion of two Nahal (military-agricultural units) outposts in the Jordan Valley, Beit Ha'arav and Zurim, into full-fledged settlements.

The Israeli committee also approved the construction of Tel Hayim settlement, south of Nablus, and Ofarim B in the Nablus district. Har Hehalutz settlement will be built in the Galilee to house immigrants from the US.

## EL AL Jet Caught with Weapons

The customs authorities in London airport raided an El Al jumbo after it landed and detained its crew for five hours, October 28. During the raid the customs men confiscated weapons they discovered on the plane.

Though the event occurred on Tuesday, October 28, nothing was published about it and no reasons was given for the news blackout. El Al refused to answer questions on the subject but has not denied the facts. It admitted that revolvers were confiscated in the search but said it was "only a customs issue."

At customs a *HaAretz* correspondant was told that despite the fact they were learning about the case for the first time, it was related, in their opinion, to routine searches made from time to time on incoming planes. The customs spokesperson said that recently there was a raid on a Pakistani plane. These raids are to locate smuggled goods, specifically drugs, the spokesperson said.

Police headquarters, Scotland Yard, confirmed the confiscation of weapons from the plane but said the police were not involved in the affair. Their spokesperson said that "the searchers discovered a safe in the plane and asked for it to be opened. When it was, revolvers were found in it."

At this stage there are no further details of the case. (Translation: HaAretz, November 9, 1983).

## Two New Settlements For Gaza

Eighty Beer Sheba families met, November 7, to establish two settlement nuclei for the Gaza Strip.

The families are part of a group of 500 families that registered for settlement in the Strip, in the framework of the Centre for Directing (Settlers) of Development Towns, last May. During the campaign thousands of Israelis reportedly expressed their interest in the possibility of settling in the Gaza Strip. (Translation: Davar, November 10, 1983).

## Tulkarm

*continued from page 1*

Amer Salameh was one of 12 children of a construction worker in Kfar Monish. He was planning to attend Najah University, Nablus, next year.

### A March in The Camp

While Ibrahim Bishara's family only opened their house for three days to receive mourners, residents of Tulkarm refugee camp arranged a funeral march to the martyrs' tombs. An estimated 200 men, women and children assembled near Amer Salameh's house, carrying wreaths, Palestinian flags and pictures of PLO Chairman Yasir Arafat.

The march was led by a banner reading: "A March for the Two Martyrs, Ibrahim and Amer" and a verse from the Quran, "Do not think that those who were killed for the sake of God are dead. They are alive in their God."

The march went to Thanaba village. The marchers sang Palestinian revolutionary songs and shouted national slogans.

Around Amer's tomb people sat, read the Qoran and drew victory signs. Speeches were made calling for the unity of the PLO.

When marchers set out for Tulkarm, Israeli soldiers fired tear gas to disperse them and detained Anat Saragosti, *HaOlam HaZe* reporter. She was held for three hours and some of her films were confiscated. Saragosti was detained and interrogated for three hours and accused, according to Israeli reports, of "participating in the organisation of the demonstration." She was released on IS5000 bail.

Martyr Ibrahim Bishara

Uri Avneri, editor-in-chief of *HaOlam HaZe*, told *Al Fajr* that he believes the police are hiding something regarding the story of the killing. "If it is not so, why do they stop journalists from doing their work?" he asked.

Avneri sent a telegramme protesting Anat Saragosti's arrest to Israeli Minister of Defence Moshe Arens.

The Israeli Committee in Solidarity with Bir Zeit University released, November 12, a statement denouncing the killing. The statement said Palestinians in the occupied territories have the right to express their opposition to the occupation as long as it continues.

The statement called on Israeli soldiers to refuse orders to open fire on demonstrators and warned the authorities against implementing "this style of opening fire on demonstrators unless Palestinians in the West Bank adopt violent military operations similar to what happened in Tyre."

## Tyre Blast Casualties

Following are the names of some of the Palestinian and Lebanese detainees killed in the Tyre headquarters blast. When nationality is identified it appears between brackets, otherwise it is uncertain. Ghaleb Rafid, Mohammed Yusuf al-Awad, Hamdan Abd al-Azza, al-Abed Shehadeh Warda, Ibrahim, Ashur, Hussein Ahmed Kesser (Lebanese), Hussein Ahmed Odeh (Palestinian), Mohammed Abdallah (Lebanese), Abd al-Rahman Gassem and Walid Gassem (Palestinians).

Prisoners wounded on the same occasion include: Ali Hassan Suleiman, Mohammed Habaz, Adnan al-Hussein. The wounded were transferred to Naqura Hospital.

## Norway Takes on Israel

Norwegian UNIFIL troops, last week, repeatedly pushed back occupation units which tried to penetrate the area under their control to make arrests in Lebanese villages and Palestinian refugee camps. These are the first incidents for some months.

According to reports from South Lebanon, the Norwegian troops had to use force to prevent the Israelis from entering their area. The incursions started November 9.

Following two cases in which the occupation forces kidnapped inhabitants from the UNIFIL area, in the summer, the Norwegian government announced that it "would not tolerate" similar actions. Attempts at penetration then ceased until last Wednesday.

## YMMA Bazaar Threatened

Israeli .... men attempted to stop a popular local food bazaar in the Jerusalem Hotel, November 4. The show was sponsored by the Young Men's Muslim Association and its scout group. Pressure started a day before the bazaar. Organisers were visited by .... police, they say, and told they needed a police permit. "We told them it was an internal activity," one of the organisers said. On the same day the .... visited the hotel and told the owner that the scouts were forbidden to use drums or sing patriotic songs.

Despite the threats the bazaar went off well. Organisers estimate that over 800 people attended. No police presence was noticed.

Ten kinds of food, representing all areas of Palestine, were on display. YMMA members and scouts made: *kubbeh*, (ground wheat with lamb and spices fried in olive oil); *sfeha*, ('Arab pizza'); *musakhan*, (bread dipped in chicken soup with baked chicken); *fawaregh*, (intestines stuffed with rice); *kusa*, (stuffed zucchini); *tajen* (a baked vegetable dish), *dawali* (vine leaves stuffed with rice); and *mansaf*, (rice with yogurt soup and lamb meat).

Jamil Dweik, the YMMA scout leader, told *Al Fajr* that the bazaar was the fourth annual Palestinian heritage activity of the group.

## No Shrink For Begin

Menachem Begin's family strongly objects to a proposal to let an expert check the former premier's mental state, an act that would facilitate drug treatment for depression.

The family maintains that such treatment would be made public, which would besmirch the leader's name. (Translation: HaOlam Haze, November 9, 1983).

## Dheisheh

*continued from page 1*

There have been reports of plans to resettle Palestinian refugees in permanent housing, now under preparation by Israeli minister without portifolio Mordechi Ben Porat for several months. Ben Porat is said to be working with a team of experts from different ministries and, according to reports, will present proposals to the cabinet soon. *Al Hamishmar* Hebrew daily reported, November 15, that the plan is scheduled to be discussed November 20. The paper said that the blueprints were modelled after schemes being implemented in the Gaza Strip. Forced resettlement of Gaza Strip refugees has been attempted since 1975.

The paper said that Ben Porat's plans contain interim phases, implementation of which could start soon. According to the plan, refugees will get flats in housing projects which would be built near the refugee camps. Finance for the new construction once the plan is approved by the government, will be collected from the US and West Germany, the paper said.

The Israeli government scheme was described by Dheisheh residents as "politically motivated." Activists from the camp say that the authorities' attempts to demolish the camps and transfer the refugees into permanent houses aims at "liquidating the physical expression of the still unsolved Palestinian problem."

The youth explained that Palestinian refugees are now living in temporary shelters awaiting return to their original homes. "To force them to move to permanent houses actually eliminates their status and jeopardises their right of return," he said.

The authorities' resettlement scheme was condemned by the Dheisheh Social Youth Centre, which issued a statement urging residents to "resist the Israeli scheme."

# WEEKLY REVIEW

**November 9, 1983**

### BOMB IN JORDAN

AMMAN — Jordan television said a six-kilogram bomb was discovered near the Saudi airlines office in the centre of Amman. It said the bomb was defused without causing any damage.

### INJUCTIONS ISSUED AGAINST LAND SEIZURE

The Israeli High Court issued an injuction against the West Bank military governor ordering him to explain within 15 days reasons for his attempt to seize land belonging to the Dmeiri family in Hebron.

The family received a statement from the military government informing them that as of April 6, 1983, their land south of Hebron has been seized by the government for military purposes. In the suit, the family said the government took the land to open a road for Givat Ze'ev settlement.

### RESTRICTION ON OIL EXPORTS

WEST BANK — The Jordanian government informed West Bank Chambers of Commerce and export companies that it will not allow West Bank olive oil to enter Jordan if the Israeli government is receiving income tax on it.

### KNESSET SPEAKER BACKS GASSING

TEL AVIV — The Israeli Knesset Speaker, Menachem Savidor, said using tear gas to quell prison disturbances is normal in Israel. Savidor was responding to a bill submitted by MK Shulamit Aloni on bad prison conditions in Neve Tertza jail for women political prisoners.

Aloni said the speaker's response shows that the Knesset does not see any necessity to discuss the problems in the jails

### SPEED LIMIT TO RISE

TEL AVIV — An Israeli transportation official said that speed limits on open highways will be raised to 120 kilometres per hour for a six-month trial period. He said studies proved that speed was not the main reason for traffic accidents. The present speed limit is 90 km.p.h.

### LAWYER APPEALS FOR PRISONER'S RELEASE

NAZARETH — Lawyer Walid Fahoum appealed to the legal advisor to the West Bank military governorate to free detainee Samiha Hamdan, who has already served more than half her prison term.

In the appeal, Fahoum said Hamdan has two little children who need her. One of the children was born in jail and kept with her for two years, according to Israeli law. Hamdan was sentenced to eight years on security charges.

### RAFAH GROUP PUNISHED

The Israeli military court in Khan Yunis issued sentences and fines on members of the board of the Rafah Services Centre amounting to IS50,000 or 60 days jail terms along with three-month suspended sentences The board members were charged with distributing political material. The centre has been closed by the military government since last August.

**November 10, 1983**

### RED CROSS VISIT NEVE TERTZA

Representatives of the International Red Cross visited the women political prisoners at Neve Tertza prison, after reports of teargassing of prisoners in the jail. No details were available on the visit.

### CURFEW LIFTED

BETHLEHEM — The curfew on Dheisheh camp, near Bethlehem, was lifted. The camp has been curfewed for several days following stone-throwing incidents and demonstrations.

### EXPLOSION NEAR TEL AVIV

A bomb exploded in a supermarket in Petah Tikva, near Tel Aviv. No further details were available.

### HEBRON STUDENTS ASK THAT THEIR SCHOOL REOPEN

HEBRON — Students from Tariq Ibn Ziab Secondary School in Hebron met with the city's head of the education department and urged him to intervene with the Israeli military government to open their school.

### UNRWA BUDGET DOWN

NEW YORK — The General Commissioner of UNRWA expressed fear that his organisation may be short US$15 million compared to last year's contributions. He said the US has promised to pay US$167 million this year compared to $182 donated last year. He warned that UNRWA is going into the new year, 1984, with enough money to run its operations for only 10 days.

**November 11, 1983**

### NEW PLO REPRESENTATIVE IN ITALY

ROME — Abd al-Fatah Qalqili was appointed as the PLO representative in Rome, replacing Nimr Hamad. Hamad was appointed to the Prague PLO office in Czechoslovakia. Qalqili was head of the Ethiopian office in Addis Ababa before his transfer.

### BIR ZEIT DEAN DETAINED

JERUSALEM — Israeli TV reported that Dr Gabi Baramki, vice-president of Bir Zeit University, was arrested on charges of incitement during a rally held on campus recently. The rally was in support of the PLO and its leader, Yasir Arafat.

**Bir Zeit University Vice-President Gabi Baramki was arrested, November 11, on charges of incitement. Two days later, the military authorities put forth allegations that he was involved in tampering with work permit applications.**

**November 12, 1983**

### BOOBY TRAPPED CAR

AMMAN — A booby-trapped rented car carrying 40 kilograms of TNT and two cylinders of butane gas was discovered in Amman an official at the Jordanian Ministry of Interior announced. The explosives were removed without causing any damage.

### GAZA DENOUNCE SYRIA

GAZA — There were demonstrations and strikes for the fifth day in a row in Gaza in protest against the attacks in north Lebanon.

### RIGHTS IGNORED IN OT

UNITED NATIONS — A United Nations fact-finding mission said in a report that the human rights of the Palestinians in the occupied territories have been gradually deteriorating. The report, prepared by a special committee investigating the Israeli measures in the occupied land for the period between August 1982 and 1983, said the condition of the civilian population under Israeli occupation is becoming unbearable. It urged the international community to intervene immediately to prevent any furthur deterioration.

The committee said Israel did not cooperate with it and refused to let it enter the occupied territories. It therefore was forced to collect the information from outside sources.

### COMPLAINTS OVER TAXES

RAMALLAH — Store owners in Ramallah complained over the high taxes imposes by the military government. "They act according to their own mood and with total disregard for the conditions of the merchants," said one shopkeeper.

### RAIN DAMAGE HOMES

JERUSALEM — Homes and cars in the Jerusalem neighbourhood of Silwan were covered by a mud slide caused by the torrential rains that hit Jerusalem. Floods were reported in low-lying areas of the village and roads were closed. No estimate of damage was available.

**November 13, 1983**

### COMPREHENSIVE ISRAELI REPORT ON THE OCCUPATION

JERUSALEM — A 120-page report on Israeli measures in the occupied territories — the first of its kind since 1967 — was published in Israel.

The report, prepared by Israeli researchers, was facilitated by a grant from the International Centre for Peace in the Middle East and tried to take an objective look at the situation of the Palestinians under occupation, according to the researcher, Dadi Zouker. The report said that while the 30,000 Jewish settlers in the occupied territories are enjoying the democratic life outlined by the Israeli constitution, one million-plus Palestinians are suffering repressive combinations of military, Jordanian and Ottoman laws.

It said 60 attacks on Palestinians perpetrated by settlers were carried out between 1979 and 1982, but only six attackers appeared in court. In one case, according to the report, a settler confessed to a crime, yet was never charged.

### TOWN ARREST

Two Palestinian unionists, Faisal Hindi, secretary of the Public Institutions Workers Union in Tulkarm, and Imad Sabadi, a member, were placed under town arrest.

### NABLUS CHAMBER DISCUSSES PROBLEMS

NABLUS — Nablus Chamber of Commerce held an extraordinary meeting to discuss conditions in the city and problems with taxes.

### BARAMKI TO BE QUESTIONED

TEL AVIV — Israel Radio claimed that the 'civil administration' in the West Bank asked the Israeli police to investigate their allegations that Dr Gabi Baramki, Bir Zeit University vice-president, was involved in forging Israeli documents relating to work permits. The request came after 18 university instructors signed the amended work permit after a clause barring political activities was struck out.

### PALESTINIAN SENTENCED TO LIFE IN VIENNA

VIENNA — Palestinian Bahij Yunis, charged with attacks on pro-Israeli targets in Vienna two years ago, was sentenced to life imprisonment.

### HIGH WINDS AND RAIN CAUSE DAMAGE

JERUSALEM — Telephone links to Hebron were cut and several traffic accidents were reported in the West Bank after high winds and torrential rains hit the area. Electricity poles were also broken by the storm, causing damage to several factories.

### TWO STUDENTS UNDER TOWN ARREST

JERUSALEM — Two university students, Abed al-Wahab Allawneh, from Jaba'a, near Je-

nin, and Munir Jaradat, from Zaboyya, were placed under town arrest by the Israeli military. The former is a student at Bethlehem University and the latter at Najah University.

### JEWISH GROUPS TO OPPOSE JACKSON

WASHINGTON — A new group called "Jews against Jackson" was formed in the US to oppose black civil rights activist Jesse Jackson's bid for the Democratic nomination for the 1984 presidential race.

The new group, an offshoot of the extreme right-wing Jewish Defence League, called, in an ad that appeared in *The New York Time*, for American Jews to oppose Jackson because of his differences with Israel. The ad carried a picture of Jackson hugging PLO leader Yasir Arafat and statements by Jackon criticising Israel.

American civil rights activist Jesse Jackson has been targetted by a new group, 'Jews Against Jackson', calling for American Jews to oppose Jackson in his bid for the 1984 Democratic presidential nomination.

## November 14, 1983

### ARAB DETAINEES ASSAULTED

TEL AVIV — The Israeli *HaAretz* newspaper said three Palestinian detainees held at Petah Tikvah jail were assaulted by Israeli prisoners. The three Arabs were detained following an explosion in Petah Tikva.

### UNEMPLOYED HANDICAPPED

GAZA — Eleven handicapped people, graduates of Egyptian universities, have been facing difficulties finding employment in Gaza schools. Some had been teaching for four years but were laid off by the education department in Gaza because, it claimed, they were sponsored by the department of social affairs.

### ANTI-STONE TECHNOLOGY

TEL AVIV — Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens said electronic devices will be installed on West Bank roads "to control stone-throwing."

### FIVE NEW SETTLEMENTS

An Israeli government and World Zionist Organisation settlement committee approved a plan to establish five more settlements in the West Bank.

### NO EXIT TO FUNERAL

JERUSALEM — The secretary of the Carpenters Union in Hebron, Yunis Tayem, was banned by the Israeli military from attending his brother's funeral in Jordan. Tayem is under town arrest.

### YOUTH KILLED IN GAZA

GAZA — A 20-year-old resident of Jabaliya refugee camp was shot dead. No further details were available, and police have imposed a news blackout on the case.

### JERUSALEM MAN JAILED

JERUSALEM — The Israeli military court in Gaza sentenced Mohammed Labadi to a two-year jail term of which he has to serve 16 months. Labadi was charged with being a member of a Palestinian organisation.

### BEIT JALA MAYOR BRINGS MONEY

BEIT JALA — Beit Jala Mayor Farah al-A'araj returned from a trip to Jordan where he met officials. He brought JD50,000 to invest in local projects. The money is part of the Beit Jala municipality account in Amman.

### SETTLERS USE ARAB DISGUISE

*HaAretz* daily reported that Israeli settlers are disguising themselves as Arabs in order to enter refugee camps. The paper said disguised settlers entered Dheisheh camp and shot and injured three camp residents.

### SUSPECTS ARRESTED IN JORDAN

AMMAN — Informed sources in Amman said three Palestinians living in Syria were arrested and confessed to responsibility for the bombs discovered in Amman recently. The three men allegedly confessed that they were recruited by the Syrian intelligence to sabotage institutions in Jordan, including the American, British and French Embassies.

### PALESTINIANS COMING HOME

JERUSALEM — *Agence France Presse* said in a report from Jerusalem that there is a noticable increase in the number of Palestinians returning home after long absences abroad.

### INFLATION RATE UP

HAIFA — The inflation rate in Israel reached a record 21 percent during the month of October, according to the cost-of-living indicators published today.

## November 15, 1983

### AI REBUKES SYRIA

LONDON — A report by Amnesty International, the human rights organisation based here, rebuked Syria for its violations of human rights that included torture and political assassinations. The report mentions six cases of collective political assassinations committed by the Syrian authorities between the period of March 1980 to February 1982. It also says between 600-1000 detainees at Balmiera jail suspected of membership in the outlawed "Muslim Brotherhood" organisation were killed on June 27.

AI said that between 10,000 and 25,000 people were killed in Hama in February 1982, when the army attacked the city to quell a rebellion. It also said many are detained in Syria without charges.

### ISRAEL'S LEBANON VISAS

Reports from South Lebanon said Lebanese citizens travelling into the Israeli-occupied parts of the country have to have a visa issued by the Israeli military. Israel has denied the reports.

### PALESTINIAN ACTRESS WINS PRIZE

CARTHAGE, TUNIS — Palestinian actress Amal Humsi won the award for best stage actress at the Carthage festival, one of the major festivals for Arab art.

### PHARMACY WINS COURT CASE

JENIN — The Jenin magistrates court threw out a suit filed by the health department to close al-Salaam pharmacy here, on the grounds that it doesn't have a resident pharmacist.

### SHAKA'A URGES UN INTERVENTION

NABLUS — Elected Mayor of Nablus Bassam Shaka'a telegrammed the United Nations Secretary General Perez de Cuellar urging him to intervene immediately to end Israeli measures in the occupied territories. Shaka'a referred in his message to the two Palestinians killed in Tulkarm last Saturday.

### IRON GATE IN NABLUS

NABLUS — The Israeli military erected a new iron barrier at an entrance to the Old City of Nablus in an attempt to control stone-throwing attacks. The Old City now has four such barricades.

# Selections from the Hebrew Press

### IN LEAGUE FOR AFRICAN TIES

The US and Israel recently made a cooperation agreement in Africa and Central America. According to the agreement the USA will finance operations and strategy while Israel sends personnel. The new agreement is convenient for both states and serves the international interests of both of them, according to Israeli reports.

The US-Israeli project will involve projects in agriculture, construction and environmental medicine. In Central America Israeli experts will be involved, after a special American request, in education and "assistance to construct a correct democratic system."

In the framework of the US-Israel agreement the Reagan administration promised to assist Israel to establish diplomatic relations with more black African countries.

Avi Primor, head of the African desk at the Israeli foreign office, will travel to black African capitals, Washington and Paris aiming to increase Israeli pressure in Africa. So far Israeli hopes for a renaissance in Israel-Africa relations following the establishment of ties with Liberia and Zaire have been blunted. Israel hopes for more ties with Francosphere Africa. (Translation: Al Hamishmar, November 16, 1983 )

### DOCTORS FOR APARTHEID

The manpower employment agency is arranging three year contracts for 20 doctors per month in the South African protectorate *apartheid* "state" Siskei, according to *Ha Aretz*, November 9. Dr Orstein, chairperson of the Israel Physicians' Union, complained about government neglect of the health services in the country. *Yediot Aharonot*, November 10, quoted Yosef Sneider saying that another group of 10 doctors is leaving next week to Siskei on a net US$ 30,000 annual income each. Sneider is a commercial representative of Siskei in Israel. The first six Israeli doctors left for Siskei about a month ago.

Sneider, a new immigrant from the Soviet Union, has worked for a year mobilising Israelis to work in Siskei. He has sent construction contractors, textile experts and aviation advisors, as well as advisors in agriculture and 'security'.

Besides a high salary, doctors are offered return tickets and other benefits. Among others, Sneider mobilises new immigrants like himself, who couldn't find jobs in Israel in their field of expertise. (Translation: Hebrew papers, November 1983)

### ISRAELI TRADE

*Al Hamishmar* daily reported, November 15, that Israel's "first commercial delegation" left this week for South Korea. They will examine the possibility of widening commercial ties and increase Israeli exports to South Korea. Sixteen exporters and company representatives are now in Japan for commercial discussions, and afterwards will go on to Hong-Kong.

### TEXT OF AN ADVERTISEMENT PUBLISHED IN SEVERAL ISRAELI NEWSPAPERS

Again we are lowering our heads and honouring dead of the Israeli Army who join the long line of the heroic war's casualties against the common enemy.

"The Lebanese Forces"
Command Fadi Afram, General Commander

The small Druze community has this week buried 13 victims of the Tyre disaster. Almost half of the dead under the ruins were Druze youth from the 21st squadron of the Border Police. The head of the Druze Follow-up Committee, Mohammed Ramal, reminded me how (former Defence Minister Ariel) Sharon sent the Phalangists (the Lebanese Forces) into the Shouf Mountains and how they mistreated his Druze brothers.

The Phalangists who massacred Palestinians at Sabra and Shatilla (refugee camps in Beirut) would have done exactly the same to the Druze in the Shouf, if (Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid) Jumblatt and his friends had not taken up arms to protect their homes. The Border Police ground their teeth and continued to follow the orders that came for a government that armed and supported the Phalangists.

Now the leaders of the Phalangists publish mourning notices that say that 'your dear sons are also our loss because our fate is one and our enemy is common.'

It would be interesting to know whether they meant also to hit the Druze sons who are no less dear to us than our Jewish sons who fell in Tyre — whether the enemies of the Phalangists in the Shouf Mountains are also the enemies of the 10 Druze families in Beit Jann, who lost their sons in Tyre. It is possible to test it this way: following Phalangist mourning notices in Israeli newspapers, the Druze villages are preparing for condolence visits. (Translation: Kol Ha'ir, November 11, 1983)

The US and Israel have been downpeddling belligerence in the past week, but as these two reports from Europe show, their Western allies — particularly in the Multinational Forces in Beirut — are trying to get them to drop the idea of war with Syria altogether.

# Washington Gears for Aggression

by Livia Rokach
Our Rome Correspondent

As the British, French and Italian governments claim to be exercising "strong pressure" on Washington to dissuade the US Reagan administration from carrying out its planned aggression in Beirut and/or other parts of Lebanon, 1000 Marines are being deployed in the Metn mountain area east of the Lebanese capital, between Beit Merry, Brumana and Ain Saadeh. The American troops, equipped with the most advanced electronic weapons, are being transported in helicopters to positions dominating the entire city of Beirut and some mountain areas.

For the third consecutive day, squadrons of US Tomcat fighter-bombers, stationed on aircraft-carrier USS Eisenhower, have resumed and intensified low-level flights over Beirut. The population of West Beirut, and especially that of the southern quarters where over 600,000 Shi'ite Lebanese pack the poorest slums, is prepared for the worst. Defenses have been erected and consolidated around all public buildings. Special security measures have been taken by the Italian contingent of the Multinational Forces around the Palestinian camps, for whose safety there are particular reasons of apprehension.

If tensions are very strong, however, morale is also reportedly high. "This may be something different from Grenada for the Americans," European diplomats, deeply concerned as to a possible involvement of their MNF contingents, despite their wishes, in eventual hostilities, keep saying.

The biggest American aero-naval force to ever have been concentrated in the Mediterranean is now deployed in front of Beirut's seafront road, which is now closed to all traffic near the American and British Embassies. The nuclear-powered aircraft-carrier USS Kennedy is on its way from Spain, and the nuclear-powered aircraft-carrier USS Independence is coming from Grenada, both accompanied by battleships and logistic support vessels, sophisticatedly equipped and carrying thousands of troops. They are expected to join, within the week, the fleet of 30 battleships and aircraft-carriers, frigates, destroyers and missile-launchers, led by the USS Eisenhower and the USS New Jersey, stationed in these waters. Three hundred sophisticated war planes of various types and over 150 missile-equipped helicopters are deployed on board this fleet.

There is something so ridiculous and farcical about this enormous show of military muscle in such a tiny country to threaten a mass of barefooted children and their hardly older brothers of the resistance militias, whose only "guilt" lies in desiring a peaceful but more dignified life for their people and communities. Many Beirutis feel they cannot take it seriously. In fact, with all this concentration of force and the incessant campaign of threats pouring in through the radio, undoubtedly manipulated by the Gemayel regime for intimidation purposes, the "normal" war goes on.

It was resumed as of the night of November 5, as soon as the Geneva Lebanese Reconciliation Talks were suspended. Exchanges of artillery, mortar, rocket and gunfire between Shi'ite positions in south Beirut, Druze positions in the Shouf and Lebanese Army strongholds in Beirut and surroundings escalated through Sunday and Monday, November 6-7, over the entire area from the airport to the Galerie Samaan crossing, and Hazmiyeh in East Beirut. The closure of Khaldeh airport on Monday night, following a barrage of small-arms fire at the runway — later described by the Druze command as "an error" — for a moment gave cause for fears of a "general rehearsal" in view of a massive US landing. By the morning, however, the airport reopened to regular traffic. Another moment of panic occured when a French jeep stolen from the MNF contingent earlier was discovered, loaded with explosives, near the Iranian Embassy at a short distance from the Italian MNF headquarters, on Monday morning, a few hours after a booby-trapped car exploded near the TV station causing the death of three children. The jeep was safely removed and its very existence denied by the Italian command. On Tuesday, however, Teheran accused the French forces of a "retaliation" attempt against its Embassy.

At the root of these incidents and of the determination of all sides to improve their positions in view of an eventual all-out aggression, is the prevalent feeling in Beirut that some big provocative action may be in preparation to justify attacks, seeing that the "reprisal" theory for the bombing of the Marines base on October 23 cannot hold now. This sensation is reinforced by the constant leaking to the media of fabricated news on the meaning and targets of a possible attack: alleged "Soviet rapid-fire batteries used by 'pro-Iranian' Shi'ite militias" (in reality a 40-year-old World War II 'Stalin organ' inherited from the PLO) described as "believed to be in a position to be used (sic) against the Marines at the airport"... or Syrian positons which "may be making preparations (sic) to threaten US ships off the coast of Lebanon with missiles or frogmen attacks" according to eternally anonymous US administration officials quoted.

In other words, the feeling is that every alibi is sought to prepare the public for an aggression against Lebanese resistance forces and Syrian positions, with a view to magnifying the alibi, always for public consumption, following the attack. At the same time, this long experimented US tactic is also linked, in the opinion of observers, to the renewed and visible coordination of strategic plans and military operations in Lebanon between the US and Israel. At this point, however, the experts say the calculations on which this coordination is based may well go wrong and end up by boomeranging against both powers, on a global level of international and inter-Western relations as well as on the Lebanese domestic scene. As one example of such a shift, among others, is the growing sensibility of Beirut to events in the south, and the unprecedented solidarity of its population with the struggle of the southern population — most recently on the occasion of the bombing of the Israeli command in Tyre — was widely applauded.

# Europeans Say War Inevitable

by Edwin, Eithan, Ze'ev Baraq, Yosi Barr

The French and Italian governments maintain that a full-scale war between Israel and Syria is now unavoidable, according to reports in the Israeli press. In their opinion, it will break out very soon. The defence ministry in Paris sent, November 7, an urgent instruction to the French command in the Multinational Forces in Beirut including a detailed list of steps that should be taken in case of the outbreak of large-scale battles. Italy sent its foreign minister, Guilio Andreotti, to Damascus, where he met the same evening with President Hafez al-Assad. The Italians "acted to calm the situation," it was learned, hoping to avoid military escalation both because this fits their policies in the region and because they have more than 2000 soldiers in Beirut.

A senior figure in the Paris administration said that "war might break out within a few days," and in such a case the USA "will provide at least logistical aid, among other things, through the ships of the Sixth Fleet that are off the Lebanese coast."

It was also learned that the French Embassy in Washington received instructions to request clarification from the Reagan administration of the steps it will take in Lebanon, "because the matter relates to France, whose soldiers would be in danger as result of an eventual wide-scale escalation."

Colleagues of Italian Foreign Minister Andreotti said that the stand and approach of the US to Israel have changed after the killing of 200-plus American Marines in Beirut. Washington is now inclined to provide Israel with direct military aid in the case of confrontation with Syria. American Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger was asked, November 6, to confirm that the US is planning a military campaign against those responsible for the massacre of the American Marines in Beirut. He said in a television interview, "Nothing has been finally decided about Beirut."

Is it true that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak gave a personal message to President Reagan requesting him not to act in Lebanon? Weinberger replied: "I have nothing to say on the subject." He only indicated that the movements of the American Navy in the Mediterranean "should not raise concern" because they are "basically routine."

American correspondents note Weinberger said similar things in response to questions on the eve of the American invasion of Grenada.

Moscow Radio said, November 6, that it expects a war in Lebanon "at any minute. "The Americans," the broadcast said, "are preparing a revenge action for the loss of their Marines. And in Washington there are no refutations that a military assault is in an advanced stage of preparation."

The Soviet party organ *Pravda* wrote: "Now, after a booby-trapped truck hit the Israelis, Tel Aviv has also had an excuse for revenge and, as in the past, Washington can count on the participation of Israel in the planned aggression, or even send the Israelis in at the head of an assault." (Translation: Yediot Aharanot, November 7, 1983)

**Lebanese wait by the barbed wire stretched along the road north of the Awali Bridge, after closure to transit between Beirut and South Lebanon by Israeli forces following the blast in Tyre.**

## SHARON: SYRIA IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TERRORIST ACTS IN LEBANON

"Syria gave the order to kill (former Lebanese President-elect) Bashir Gemayel. It hit the Marines and French commands in Beirut and it is responsible for the attack on the Israeli governorate in Tyre," Israeli minister without portfolio Ariel Sharon said, November 6, at a press conference in the Hilton Hotel, San Francisco.

Sharon directly accused Syria of responsibility for "all terrorist acts taking place in Lebanon," saying that the commanders of the "terrorist organisations" are now under the direct command of Syrian intelligence. He counted out the "terrorist organisations" in the various regions of Lebanon, who receive direct instructions from Damascus and added: "There is no independent PLO organisation today, only remnants that are under direct Syrian command."

Among others, Sharon advised a common American plan to stand against "Syrian terror" in Lebanon and demanded that Syria be informed that any further "terrorist acts" would be considered by the US and Israel as an act of war.

He also demanded that France and the US close Syrian embassies in Paris and Washington. About the attacks in Lebanon he said, "This is the price the free world must pay if we wish to hit communist aggression."

During the Sharon speech to 1000 American Jews at the Hilton Hotel, November 6, thousands demonstrated outside, calling: "Reagan and Sharon, Mass Murderers!" About 10 pro-Sharon people demonstrated. (AP)